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'Comparing a person with ADHD who takes Ritalin with an alcoholic is simply wrong'

PREGNANT PAUSES

PREPARED YOUNG WOMEN will certainly face judgement from poor counterparts when it comes to teen pregnancy. "Suddenly teen pregnancy is cool?" Sociology, Jan. 26). What criteria are it how invisible and/or blamed uneducated young mothers-esteem to be. While it may be Hollywood that to have a baby on your hip, it is criminal to be poor, uneducated and pregnant. As a society, let's continue to celebrate the success stories, but let's not forget that 1.5 million children in Canada live in poverty and that single mothers make up one of every two families living in poverty. If we can continue to break down the social stigma facing young mothers, why not rethink a social support system for them too?

Leanne Kennedy, Pregnancy and Parenting Worker, The Shout Clinic, Toronto

WHAT YOUR ARTICLE endorsed is that teen-age pregnancy is just another little ditch the slippery slope of the decline of Western civilization. And you managed to make it sound like a fun thing to do.
B.A. Conway, Ottawa

I WASN'T SURPRISED by your story. Perhaps it's because it's only been four years since I left high school, and the idea of so many young girls not only becoming pregnant but desiring to be with child was a commonplace thing. My high school even had a daycare program specifically to accommodate students and staff, although the main use of the program were students. What's more, though, is that despite the school's acknowledgement of teen pregnancy, there was one outdoor dispenser in the entire school or any sex education course.
Chloe McKee, Winnipeg

THE ARTICLE SEEMED to spend more time on the real world of children having children (interupted or halted schooling, financial difficulties, increased demand for social welfare and subsidised housing, more single-parent families) and even more pressure on the struggling health-care system.
Garry King, Ottawa

DOH WORTH CARRYING GULL? I'm sorry because that women continue their pregnancies because of the influence of movies and celebrity preg-

nancies? Maybe this new phenomenon has more to do with the complete change in family dynamics over the past 30 years. Maybe it's parents become more involved in their careers and themselves and less interested in the lives of their children, thus a increased independence in young women—and interest but not necessarily wisdom. Maybe the overall lack of accountability that dominates our society might have something to do with the new trend? In the film/TV, such as *Gull* movies, the young woman is sexy, and is guided by supportive people. Her adulthood about love is transferred by her relationship



with the open adoption parents-to-be and her relationship with the teenage father of her baby she experiences an awakening, and the movie is hopeful. There is nothing hopeful about real children having babies and keeping them.
Dad D'Amico, Hamilton

GORRRR, BARBARA AMIEL

USUALLY, WHEN I SEE Barbara Amiel's face at the top of one of her columns, I turn the page. This time I read the story in which she mentioned Ritalin ("Is Ritalin giving some kids an unfair boost?" *Chronicle*, Jan. 18) and, yes, she succeeded in irritating me again. I have to assume Amiel also has known everything and her opinion is the right one every time. I couldn't possibly have thought that. I must just be depressed and tired. My son couldn't possibly be benefiting from taking his medication, despite a sudden ability to

direct his attention to schoolwork for more than 10 minutes at a time; and a definite improvement in mood. I suppose I must have to be careful for by someone like Amiel whose expertise comes from a creative interpretation of the real world.
Corin Bentley, Guelph, Ont.

I WAS APPALLED at Amiel's substance of understanding on the topic of ADHD. It was obvious that she had neither taken the time to understand the medical condition, nor to speak to experts on how much info is prescribed for it. If she had, she might have noted that ADHD is a neurological condition diagnosed by a medical doctor. I cannot imagine any doctor making a diagnosis and prescribing medicine to provide a student an unfair academic advantage. In fact, the notion is beyond ludicrous. Would Amiel accuse someone of an unfair advantage for using glasses?
Heidi Bernhardt, Executive Director, Centre for ADD/ADHD Advocacy Canada, Toronto

COMPARING A PERSON who has been diagnosed with ADHD and taken Ritalin to a drug addict or alcoholic is simply wrong. Myriad did not choose to have this imbalance. Perhaps the most disturbing comment is Amiel's comparison of taking Ritalin to taking steroids. This infers that the parent is giving a child Ritalin without a proper diagnosis or a prescription doctor's consent. It is very misleading to a parent who has done the research and got the proper treatment for her loved one. That Ritalin gives you an unfair advantage? Absolutely not. He had an unfair advantage from birth and Ritalin has merely helped him cope in areas where the nature of his fellow students do not have trouble.
Julie McDonald, Mississauga, Ont.

BEARING THE BURTON

YOUR REPORT ON the fate of the Canadian polar bear population is an inexcusable attempt to present a contrived real issue as a balanced view. Unfortunately, in this case your eagerness to be fair created a distorted image of what's at stake. As someone who moved towards the shores of Hudson Bay to observe polar bears and to be guided by Parks Canada experts through Wapusk National Park, I was able to see the fragile and heartbreaking state that the conservation on the southern edge of the Arctic is in. The site

visits either year by year and freezes later, the bears get food for shorter periods of time every year, their population shrinks noticeably, and since the territories further north are already occupied by other bear populations, the number of bears entering the shores of Hudson Bay will further decline until the last bear will have died of malnutrition. And this will, in the long run, be the fate of polar bears in regions which at this point still seem to be better protected. Unfortunately, your story mostly focused on negative results further north, especially Muskrat, where the immediate impact of global warming might only be seen many years from now. But just because the local hunters you interviewed don't notice any changes yet, this cannot lead us to the wrong conclusion that maybe things are not called to stay look in the more vulnerable southern areas. You quoted comments to suggest that there is no way to protect exactly how many bears will live or die at what time in the future. But once we have these numbers based on reliable evidence, it will be too late.
Liam van Dorem, Toronto

THE AUTHORS of your story on the polar bear, Colin Campbell and Kate Leeson, have committed the all too common error of



reporting a scientific controversy related to climate change and polar bears where none exists ("The war over the polar bear," *Science*, Feb. 4). There is more agreement about the scientific principles of climate change than nearly any other scientific issue. Lately, however, the melting of the Arctic ice cap has far outstripped projections. Similarly, there is no scientific controversy about the detrimental impact of global warming on polar

bears. While there may be a political controversy in Canada, there is certainly no scientific controversy. Moreover, the authors of the article, "What's adding the math about the fate of a Canadian bear?", implies that one of the three groups featured in the article—the Inuit, polar bear experts, or environmentalists—is lying about climate change and polar bears. There is no evidence that any of these groups is lying, and

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A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF JERRY YANG

Last Thursday, the CEO of Yahoo! unveiled poor quarterly results and announced plans to lay off as many as 1,000 workers. That night, Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer called Yang to say he'd be launching a hostile US\$44.6 billion takeover the next morning. On Friday, Yang's phone rang again. This time it was Google CEO Eric Schmidt offering a strategic alliance to help fend off mischief Microsoft. So far, the only word from Yahoo! is that the buyout is being

Good news

It's the issues, stupid

An encouraging sign that week that the U.S. Democratic nomination race is rising above race and gender politics: A New York Times investigation of the Barack Obama campaign's ties to a shadowy power company raised questions about the Illinois senator's credibility as a reformer, as well as his independence from deep-pocketed donors. While Obama claims to have moved decisively against the firm's shady environmental practices, he in fact vetoed down environmental legislation that would've impacted the company, which (surprise!) had donated generously to his campaign. Whether Hillary Rodham Clinton will possess as scrupulous a history of oversight as Obama's remains to be seen, but we can expect to hear more about the candidates' actual track records.

Work late, safe

Late pay penalties for R.C.'s night shift: New regulations, known as "Grant's Law," require gas station patrons to pay before pumping. As well, late night rules prohibit retail staff from working alone, unless they're behind a locked barrier. Sound decisions? The law breaks Maple Ridge gas station employee Grant DePrie. He was charged with deadly under a car in 2005 in a vain attempt to stop a customer from fleeing with \$12 in unpaid gas.

Super Sunday

Early indications suggest that TV ratings for Sunday's Super Bowl may have been the highest ever for the state of championship game, and those millions of viewers were treated to a display of the sport at its finest. The game was surprisingly well played—eye-

fully by the New York Giants' defense and quarterback Eli Manning—and provided a fairy-tale ending to boot. It was a fitting end for the swarming New England Patriots and their chilly coach Bill Belichick, who ran up the score on weaker opponents all season and were prohibitive favorites to win the game. It's more than enough to win. Cast your appetites for the arrival of the NFL's Buffalo Bills, who'll play eight games in Toronto over the next five seasons.

FACE OF THE WEEK



VASILY Alexeev, a former VP of Yahoo!, the defendant in the case of a client, was on trial Tuesday for a murder charge. He is dying of AIDS.

Cheer up, boomers

By 2025, one in five Canadians will be 65 or older—a huge burden on the labour market and the health care system. But there is a bright side to the country's aging population: more people will be working. According to a new study, the road to personal happiness is shaped like the letter "U"—it's at age 20 and 30s, gloom in our 40s and 50s, and ascended bliss in our 60s and 70s. Of course, not everyone finds the misery of middle age. Just ask Nicolas Sarkozy. Last week, the 53-year-old French president entered a former supermodel.

Bad news

Duck, duck, goose

With just 10 weeks left in office, George W. Bush started another dubious distraction this week, tabling the country's largest ever budget. The US\$1.1 trillion proposal guarantees his tax cuts, includes a military spending hike, and features a US\$410 billion deficit while chopping US\$186 billion out of health care. All this while the country faces down the threat of recession and a skyrocketing dollar. This latest duck seems more like Duffy every day.

Everyone's business

Canada's shock and dismay at the freezing deaths of soldiers Kaylene and Sergeant Peachey on Saskatchewan's Yellow Quill First Nation reserve last week is already beginning to fade. Paradoxically, it seems like the depth of the problems that contributed to the girls' and—sorry, poverty, addiction, and family breakdown—make us less inclined to confront them. Later this spring, the girls' mother will give birth for a third time. We all responsible for this child's death. Not all wounds should heal.

Creeping chaos

The death toll from post-election violence in Kenya topped 1,800 this week, as the government and opposition continue to negotiate talks designed to bring the rioting to an end. In Chad, the government is pleading for international intervention to stop a push to oust President Idriss Deby, claiming the rebellion is a Sudanese ploy to stop the deployment of peacekeepers along their shared Darfur border. With an ever-growing list of humanitarian crises, it's time for the West to divert some of its attention, might and money to Africa.

Empire's epitaph

The final place of the former Walling newspaper empire now appears headed for the scrap heap. Sun Times Media announced last week that it is exploring a sale of the Boardview Chicago Sun-Times. The company lost almost \$100 million in the first quarter and recently announced plans for major layoffs. Conrad Black is headed to jail March 3, and his company is in ruins. Maybe justice is just another word for reeking left to lose. ■

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MITCHEL RAPHAEL ON WHY JASON KENNEY'S BACKING OBAMA AND DION'S DARK SECRET

HE'S 'SHOCKED AND APPALLED'

Carla Fraser, the young special assistant to Mulroney-turned-Minister Jason Kenney, has been sporting a Barack Obama pin. One of his fellow Tory staffers said he was "shocked and appalled," calling the show of support "an embarrassment to our office and to Conservatives everywhere." The minister himself, though, is cool with the pin. When Kenney was a student at the University of San Francisco, he says he helped fundraise for the inside-Denverites' campus club The Calgary Tory MP. He helped Al Gore when he sought the Democratic presidential nomination in 1988. And when it comes down to Obama vs. Hillary Clinton, Kenney picked Obama. "I believe in elections as a platform and that's one of the great strengths of Barack Obama," he says. "It's being inspirational to American politics. I don't obviously agree with all his policy positions, but he's a pretty uplifting character."

RACING STEVEN FLETCHER

Eleven-year-old Hannah Taylor, who when she was eight founded the Ladybug Foundation to help the homeless, was on the Hill telling her stories to raise money and awareness. Her MP, Steven Fletcher, told Capital Diary he need Taylor across the House floor in his wheelchair before he at the other MP's arrival. The Winnipeg Tory didn't do it a photo finish, but supporters saw it first. There was a photo of Taylor with Stephen Dion's wife, Janice Kricher. The young activist and her father appeared on a local news broadcast included a fruit bowl, onions and "Mr. Dion's dark chocolate" from a special snash he keeps. It's Swiss.



BLOC MP HAD FOUR ABORTIONS

Some Bloc MPs got into a bit of a 20th anniversary of the Citizens' Initiative of Abortion in Canada event he is in White Rock. Since there were not enough French "Pro-Choice" banners to go around, some Bloc MPs, such as French critic Christian Gagnon, posted the English "Pro-Choice" banners on their jackets without looking

at them. When the political bus was pointed out, the bus was quickly removed. Bloc MP Nicole Denon found the event particularly irritating. Now a grandfather of two, she had her abortion in the years after giving birth to her second son, who had hemophilia, so small passing the disease on to her male child. (Females are rarely unable to pass hemophilia.) Increased Hill secur-

ity was noticeable at the event, but somehow an anti-abortion poster was pasted on the car's windshield that was right beside the event room. The poster said "9 months. The length of time an abortion is illegal in Canada. No medical reason needed."

CRIME TACKLES MPS

The Bloc MP for Edmonton, Wilson Rabeau, had his constituency office broken into twice in June, the three made off with her computers. Supporters asked a man to be in the room hoping to see what he had taken. Justin Tardif, another crime writer, Toronto Liberal MP Carolyn Bennett, finally placed her net bag, which was under the microscope. The former leadership candidate who dropped out of the leadership race to support Bob Rae is now sporting a red leather knapsack. Is her Democratic campaign?

PM CUT OFF

Peter Milliken recently retired and has seventh year as Speaker. When Stephen Harper tried to tack on a new constituency at the end of an answer during question period, Milliken cut him off because the PM was over his allotted time. That day, the Speaker was being shadowed by high school student Dean McKelvie, whose parents had won the "copperhead" as an action to raise scholarship money for Ontario's Ashbury College. Milliken rarely does these things outside of his Kingston home, but likely made an exception because many diplomats told three to his Ashbury, and Milliken has a grandchild of two, she had her abortion in the years after giving birth to her second son, who had hemophilia, so small passing the disease on to her male child. (Females are rarely unable to pass hemophilia.) Increased Hill secur-

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The best stimulus is no stimulus at all



ANDREW COYNE

One consequence of my long period of prosperity, such as we have enjoyed since 1991, is a certain complacency. It has been almost a generation since the last recession—just two consecutive quarters in the last 66—or so. Perhaps not surprising that some investors should have imagined the good times would never end, and taken an excessive risk that there might have been a problem. The courage on the markets of recent weeks is necessary corrective to those excesses.

The other aspect of prosperity is what might be called policy paralysis. As members of the last recession fade, the fierce debates of previous decades over what government can or ought to do to "stimulate" the economy are forgotten. And policies that had thought were discarded long ago are remembered in a blurry afterglow, as if the prosperity we have since enjoyed was somehow their effect, and not their disposal. Or, as the Wall Street Journal headlined a recent editorial, in tribute to the work of Richard Nixon, "We're all Keynesians now."

It was Keynes who famously said that "in the long run we are all dead," but the adage does not seem to have applied in his own case. Whatever debt politicians and journalists may not know about the economy, the one thing they think they know is that it is the business of government to "stimulate" the economy whenever it falters, a legacy of Keynes's Depression-era prescriptions. That it was precisely this sort of thinking that caused inter-decade recessions, as opposed to what proved to be the necessary solution they themselves had created, is not so well remembered.

Christopher A. Sims of rapid growth with low inflation does seem to have succeeded as against the belief that a lack of new inflation will somehow lead to even higher growth, the Phillips Curve theory that did so much harm

in the 1960s and 2000s. Canada of the Toronto Star editorial board, people do seem to have absorbed the message that the best combination of fiscal and monetary policy is to have a monetary policy of price stability, to preserve a stable measure of value, and that any attempt to stimulate growth with inflation will in the end give us only more of both.

But if we are no longer so foolish as to believe in the possibility of "fine-tuning" the economy by monetary means, that has only led to the sort of an even older piece of business the notion that fiscal policy can do the job. Hence the sudden profiting, south of the border, of a ludicrous \$145-billion "stimulus" package, a mixture of temporary tax cuts and probably permanent spending increases at the

crystalline margin of a deficit all through the 1970s and 1980s: the Ontario government of Bob Rae was perhaps the last to try the experiment—as a discernible effect.

That Keynesianism enjoyed such currency until then seems hard to explain. In Friedrich Hayek, Keynes's chief antagonist, observed, it turned what was previously considered a vice—government profligacy—into a virtue, by spending more than it took in, two parts of its economic students were taught, government should avoid aggregate demand, rather than simply diluting the competition of it. Searching for nothing, in other words.

It took 10 years of hard national labor to undo Keynes's grip. It was pointed out that the reach of the central spending "leaked" out



Keynesian economics turned government profligacy from a vice into a virtue

to purchase imports, that government borrowing on domestic financial markets, by driving up interest rates, "was used" to drive investment. And if interest rates should, down the exchange rate, to match the same effect, that the recipients of tax cuts may not spend the proceeds, but save them, and that by these and other means, whatever initial "stimulus" they might be it rapidly and unaccountably wound. In fact, end, there's no fire here, even in recessions.

So far, the Harper government has been admirably unwilling to follow the American lead. It's hard enough that the fact that the economy does not need at this point is a pretty little into deficit. If Jim Flaherty's current fiscal budget is successful by the opposition as a stand pat, he has, do what ever, eventually, it will be worth to say. The time for reaction is now. ■

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'Short-term goals have an emotional component that overtakes us. Nobody says, "Today's a good day for a colonoscopy!"'

DAN ARIELY TALKS WITH KATE FILLION ABOUT WHY SO MANY ECONOMISTS UNDERSTAND SO LITTLE, AND HOW A BURN UNIT CHANGED HIS LIFE

Q What exactly is a behavioral economist? **A:** Much of standard economic analysis assumes rationality. If you ask a standard economist why people don't save enough money, they'll say it's a marginalist mistake: people are reasonable, they know what they're doing; they might not be saving as *lot* because maybe they don't have enough resources right now, maybe they want to check out how it would feel to live with their kids at retirement, maybe they really want to use one of the bonds of social security. Behavioral economists, though, believe that people make all kinds of irrational mistakes, and we try to analyze those in order to create opportunities to help people out. For instance, have you ever gone to a restaurant, waiting to cover your diet, but when the waiter came with a tray of desserts, you succumbed to temptation?

Q: That's just because I'm weak. **A:** Well, a standard economist's perspective would say, "If you eat a chocolate, at the end of the day, it means you are not really concerned with your weight." Behavioral economists say, "No, people are really concerned with their weight, they just can't handle the criterion that comes over their heads from getting so close to the chocolate soufflé, and as a consequence, they make a mistake and enjoy it more." You have a different long-term goal than the short-term goal, and in many cases, short-term goals have an emotional

component that overtakes us and makes us forget our long-term goals. Think about health care: Nobody wakes up and says, "Today's a good day for a colonoscopy!" Because of the fear and disgust that takes over whenever I think about it, we procrastinate and eventually don't end up doing it.

Q: Speaking of irrationality, do you find people have negative expectations of you based on the fact that you have visible scars on your face and hands?

A: Yes, very much. When I meet people, I'm very sensitive to whether they shake my hand or not, and I very much categorize people by the type of handshake they give me. That's one of the people who kind of held [my finger] between their thumb and their index finger.

Q: Like it's a bug or something.

A: Yeah! I've understood that it's not comfortable and you don't know exactly what to do, but on my side, it's difficult.

Q: How were you injured?

A: I was 16, on the beginning of mandatory military training in Israel. I was in a place that had some exercises, and among the things they had were burns, those burners that are supposed to light up the whole battlefield. One of them exploded next to me. There's nothing glorifying about that injury, it was just a stupid accident.

Q: How did you get from being in a hospital bed with 70 percent of your body burned to reaching the top of your field and teaching at MIT?

A: The hospital is a completely different universe, and I was there for a long time. For months I couldn't eat, I was fed through a tube, I couldn't walk, I couldn't even move. I started looking at the people around me and feeling more and more like a weird observer because I wasn't part of that life anymore. I really started working on [the idea of] human rationality through the health treatment, which is the history of every human patient. Every day, sometimes twice a day, burn patients are lowered into a big, oval bath filled with water and iodine to soak a little bit, and then the nurses start tying the bandages off. Everybody's had a Band-Aid moment, and it's always a question of do you do it slowly, or fast? But when it's 70 percent of your body, and occurs every day, and takes more than one hour, and there's absolutely no skin so the bandages have adhered to flesh, it's really very intense. The nurses in any way believed the best way to get the bandages off was by tearing them very fast, one after the other, and trying to finish quickly.

Q: To minimize the scarring. **A:** Right. But I thought it would be better to make it slower and more steady for a longer duration, without pain every second. When I got out of the hospital, I wanted to test out my theory. So I created experiments [at universities] in which I would hurt people to different ways. Sometimes you would get a high intensity pain for a short time, sometimes low intensity but longer duration, sometimes



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didn't give people money but gifts. We gave people nothing, or a tiny gift of a candy bar, or a box of Godiva chocolates, and we saw that people was not offended by the small gift, they worked hard all the time. So next we created a mixed market, where we gave the same gift but told you how much it cost us. Well, when people learned they were getting a 10-cent candy bar, they were suddenly upset and not willing to work very hard. What does this say for society and businessmen as I think, quite important. ■

DION'S DILEMMA

Pick a fight and force an election or keep propping up the Tories?

BY JOHN SEDGWICK After his come-from-behind win at the Liberal leadership convention in Montreal on Dec. 2, 2006, Stéphane Dion's first message to his party was, "Let's get ready for the election!" It was a predictable rallying cry, but also sounded like prudent advice. After all, Stephen Harper was then fast approaching his first anniversary in government. The average federal minority has lasted about a year and a half. Dion holds the discount edge in Canadian history, fully 16 years shy of a majority. How much longer could his Conservatives hold on before being plunged into another campaign?

As it's turned out, a lot longer than Dion might have expected. The basic arithmetic of the 305-seat House is one versus 125 Conservative MPs, 94-94 Liberals, 43 Bloc Québécois, 30 NDP, five independents, and, at the moment, five vacancies. With the balance of power shared so evenly, Harper can look to any of the three opposition parties to keep his minority afloat. Early on, he often turned to the Bloc. In recent months, though, he has relied on the Liberals to support him or, more precisely, to abstain from voting when his government's life is on the line.

That's left Dion open to jeering from the Bloc and NDP. And the taunts that he's propping up the Tories because he fears facing the voters will only grow louder, as Dion hints at a willingness to negotiate a compromise with Harper over Afghanistan at the same time his Liberal caucus is shelling out great sums for toppling the government over its upcoming budget.

"We have to be careful not to give in to the quadding," warns Ontario Liberal MP Mark Holland, typically one of Dion's craggy partners. "If we just go [into an election] because otherwise people will say we're not fighters, then we'll return into a dumb battle."

Choosing a smart battle at the right time

has become Dion's dilemma. No matter the issue, can he really make his job easy? Harper won't let the coalition's twinning debates redefining Canada's role in Afghanistan and hunting for the splinter from the U.S. security clamp—yet hard to cast as a campaign-ready. They're looking for an military mission in Kandahar, Liberals are looking to modify what Canada's troops are doing, not withdraw them entirely. On the economy, they concede the federal surplus is too small to pay for a big stimulative spending spree. So both fledgling Dion want him for support, not driving a wedge between himself and Harper. Perhaps reflecting the lack of a clear choice, polls show both parties failing to lure and hold new voters.

Afghanistan still has the potential to force a confrontation that could fill the Tories' Dion/long-standing position is that Canada's combat mission in violent Kandahar province must end, as scheduled, in February 2009. Harper accepts the same recommendation of John Manley's independent panel on Afghanistan, which calls for Canada to pull 1,000 more troops from the 3,000 were standing firm on Tuesday, after refusing to discuss the issue. In Harper's Parliament Hill office, for the first time since Manley delivered his report last month, a Dion aide said he expressed "firms and unswerving belief that the combat

and veteran Liberal MPs told Manley they lean toward accepting a compromise, perhaps built around limiting the zone of fighting. Canadian troops engage in "what might allow the Liberals to draw down demand that 'combat' end had been achieved. One possible formula: Canadian troops would no longer hunt down Taliban insurgents, but would be allowed to defend, say, construction work or the training of Afghan forces. But if playing down combat is the description of the mission is the route too bipartisan

staff, Gen. Rick Hillier, the chief of defence staff, isn't making it easy for politicians to go there. "Currently, if you're in Kandahar," Hillier declared last week, "you're going to be in combat operations."

Keeping his caucus united on Afghanistan will test Dion's leadership over the next few weeks. His MPs remember all too well how Harper split their heads in 2006, by forcing a quick House vote on stretching Canada's commitment in Kandahar by two more years. Michael Ignatieff, who was then tying with Dion for the Liberal leadership, veered with the 30 Liberals who supported the Tories to pass that motion. Dion voted with the majority of Liberal MPs against it.

These days, Ignatieff is Dion's deputy leader, and arguably the most compelling presence on the Liberal front benches. The two suddenly would avoid a rift. Ignatieff

said Christian Protonotario is embedded in Dion's office. Ignatieff seems to have been sympathetic to the military's active engagement in Kandahar. During a recent trip there with Dion, he blogged as his personal website about visiting a Canadian army forward operating base, writing about meeting a local Afghan leader who "believes the Canadians will win and the Taliban will be turned back." Describing the work of Canada's Provincial Reconstruction Team, Ignatieff blogged about how, when the team's aid workers and doctors leave their compound to work, "they carry a full military escort." His observation hardly seemed to shore up anyone's case for pulling Canadian troops away from the heart of the conflict zone.

House that might and Harper's rule. A few early times and it's nearly worded motion might be hard for Liberals to oppose. They say they're ready. Mike Scott-Brown and Dominic LeBlanc, along with Bob Rae, who is running for a seat in a Toronto by-election, have been meeting frequently in his name out a platform. Their work has been remarkably bold, given that party insiders say the platform would be constructed around a few high-profile policy ideas, not a sweeping plan for government like the conservative "Red Book," says Chretien's successor. Ignatieff on an issue. Among in say that will be Dion's apparent environmental policy ideas, and a revamped early childhood education and daycare plan.

But the Tories are expected to run to a campaign against the Liberal platform than Dion's leader ship. Opinion polls show the Liberals and Conservatives both failing to catch the sustained updraft at voter preference but under party would need to feel confident heading into a campaign. Some Tories think, though, that Harper's much stronger personal approval ratings suggest he will lift the party during a campaign, while Dion would drag the Liberals down.

ALTHOUGH THE LIBERALS will condemn Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's budget, they haven't much to counter with.

But Ottawa's political Mike Mason says Harper's edge is less obvious than it might appear. This week's CPAC Finance Leadership Conference drew 12 percent of Canadian polling. Harper is the leader with the best vision, almost double Dion's 12 per cent, a near tie with the NDP. Leader Jack Layton's 18 per cent, but fully 24 per cent of those polled were undecided, and might be open to Dion if he overcomes the lingering effect of waves of Tory attacks. "The Conservatives have created such low expectations for Dion," Mason says, "that if he shows up with a pulse, and says something credible, the numbers are going to move, and it's going to look like a surge."

Mason sees Harper and Dion grappling with precisely the opposite strategic problems. "The Conservatives are well organized and well funded, but a number of issues could be bad news for them," he says. "For the Liberals, it's the matter of size. They have some issues they can make political hay with, but organizationally, they are not there."

It's a prescription for caution on both counts. Harper waiting for issues to explode, Dion for his name to turn into noise. But, then, political events have a way of making a mockery of partisan strategy. And, especially in a rivalry where the odds are so close, it's not always

THE TORIES MAY RUN NOT ON LIBERALS' IDEAS BUT ON DION'S LEADERSHIP

DION AND IGNATIEFF are seen to avoid a rift over Afghanistan



NEITHER THE ISSUES NOR THE POLLS ARE MAKING DION'S JOB ANY EASIER

mission in Kandahar must end by February 2009," while Harper's spokeswoman said the Prime Minister would not support for the Manley panel's proposal.

The contrast seems stark enough. Yet in



PHOTO: MICHAEL LEWIS; DION: MICHAEL LEWIS; IGNATIEFF: MICHAEL LEWIS

Are Alberta's Tories out of gas?

**This election could be tough thanks to—
surprise!—the economy**

BY NICHOLAS KROMBEY There is something strangely ominous about the election of the premier of Alberta. When, last month, he left a Council of the Federation meeting in Vancouver earlier than his fellow premiers on the issue of climate change, he left to round a young boy evading playground bullies. And, earlier that week, when he dropped the writ and a series of reporters accused him of using legislative resources in personal purpose—a no-account decision often called—be treated as though he'd brought a new ball to the park only to find the other children didn't want to play.

All of this is to say that the Alberta Tories, in power since 1971 and largely popular under former premier Ralph Klein, now find themselves at risk. Hence the election call, almost two years before the government was required to make it and just as the legislature was to convene for a new session. That timing puts the Tories to fight election period, when Stelmach's support is low. "We haven't got Q's going on it, day after day of watching Stelmach up there smug and humble his way through an answer," a Tory insider says. Stelmach, whose approval numbers plummeted last summer despite a stubborn perception that he's a halting but nevertheless good and honest man, will face polls indicating that 27 per cent of voters, many of them in urban centres where oil booms were once pronounced, remain undecided about how to cast their ballot. "It's not going to get any better," says the Tory. "I don't think it's when they recognize that's why they're going now."

But another less apparent factor than most poll numbers drove this week's election call, and that is Alberta's economy—as surprising as that might seem. Canadians continue to see oil-rich Alberta, as Newfoundland Premier Danny Williams put it every time he gets the election, as a "golden province," the source of the country's new pennies. Dollar signs are gleaming all over the U.S. mobile. But things are starting down in Alberta too, and Stelmach, fairly or not, may be losing much of the blame. Here, and now, Tony to pre-empt the trouble and drop the writ.

To understand his difficulties, it helps to



IT'S DAY AFTER DAY OF WATCHING STELMACH STUTTER AND BUMBLE HIS WAY THROUGH AN ANSWER

recall that \$150 a barrel oil doesn't quite capture Alberta's economic reality, which, on the conventional scale of things, is a sea of oil. It is really all about natural gas—\$16.1 billion in investments, roughly equivalent to money put into the oil fields. So gas prices for the last 18 months have now confirmed with a soaring Canadian dollar to diminish the appeal of the Alberta basin for energy players. Then came Stelmach's royalty increase, unveiled last October and slated to begin in 2008, which upped the dues paid by oil and gas owners by 20 per cent, or to \$4 billion annually. "The impact of the royalty increase has taken that low commodity price and high dollar and made them that much worse," says Don Hermy, president of the Canadian Association of Oilfield Drilling Contractors. "Any

economic model you put the thing has to start winding down."

By numbers, an economic indicator that's presented to Alberta cabinet ministers on a weekly basis, representing just how many crews are out working in the field, have consistently declined. In the first quarter of 2006, some 700 rigs, each representing roughly 75 jobs—75,000 in total—were drilling Alberta's heavier trends. In the first quarter of 2007, largely due to low gas prices, that count had dropped to 530, and now, therefore, some say, to 500. One of the province's revenue pillars, says Hulse, "it may have to actually apply a little fiscal discipline"—not as easy thing to do for a crew that, within two weeks or so of the election call, had announced over \$1.1 billion in new spending, according to Scott Henney, Alberta director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation. Had the Tories wanted to call the election, Stelmach likely would have had to defend yet again his royalties scheme and—something new—the Alberta economy, a "two-front war," as Hulse put it.

And who of the other forces—Alberta's opposition parties and, particularly, the Liberals? Leaving aside the question of a slowing energy industry, eleven-year cabinet leader Kevin Taft and his Liberals to make inroads in the cities, including as many as 12 ridings in Calgary. That would put Alberta's business capital in league with the political capital, Edmonton, which has for years been something of a red zone in a fast-track, Tory blue. Such a possibility shifts energy-governance into the realm of possibility. "You strategize what through the scenario: 'We've got 60 seats now, you need 48 for a majority, so that's only 12 seats. You take away 10, 11, 12, out of the Calgary area, you've done the math. Put another one in Lethbridge, put maybe one out of two in the Red, you take a couple out of Edmonton... You're there.'"

Should Stelmach hold his majority but lose the provincial's centre, the premier would face a new crisis. "This job has enormous pressure on Stelmach to leave—in a year or two or whatever," says Taft. "If you have lost Edmonton and you have lost Calgary—outside possibility but not without some chance—then you have a real hard government making decisions for the cities, when most Albertans live." All this is despite the hypothetical future. The writ is, still, leader of the Alberta Liberals says 2008, has not yet managed to excite the electorate. The challenge for the Tories, as it was last time, when the party lost Klein's old riding to a Liberal, is that their voters may have. Stelmach, meanwhile, now half in hand—ending this year, just plans to let to money—will appeal to Alberta's natural gas producers and will be embroiled.

enemies will live up to the forecasts that were contained in the royalty review," says University of Lethbridge political scientist Geoffrey Hulse. Hulse anticipates the shift of oil and gas producers from Alberta to British Columbia and the U.S. as the oil business that about 100,000 barrels during "special leverage on the government to get them to fix some of the details of the royalty review" but whatever the reasons for declining oilfield investment, the election and the financial impacts remain the same.

So, in the government's revenue pie charts, says Hulse, "it may have to actually apply a little fiscal discipline"—not as easy thing to do for a crew that, within two weeks or so of the election call, had announced over \$1.1 billion in new spending, according to Scott Henney, Alberta director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation. Had the Tories wanted to call the election, Stelmach likely would have had to defend yet again his royalties scheme and—something new—the Alberta economy, a "two-front war," as Hulse put it.

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ONE TOKE OVER THE LINE

An Alberta court says employers can test and fire workers for drugs

BY CHRIS KELLEY Five and a half years ago, John Chisone took a goodly spritz of old vodka, and the courts have been fighting ever since over it.

Five days after killing, he was charged with a terrorism offence, he'd been fired because his pre-employment drug screen came back positive for marijuana. He pulled in on a witness stand, but was reinforced on the grounds that he had been discriminated against for a mental or physical disability. The Alberta Human Rights and Gender Equality Commission, however, which oversees the independent panel

that was notified to look into the case to the Court of Queen's Bench and then the judge had been treated as if he were an addict, which, in Canada, is a disability just like Parkinson's disease or paraplegia. Then, last month, the Alberta Court of Appeal overruled that decision—effectively re-allowing pre-employment drug testing while recognizing that addiction is a disability.

The law, a recent one, says a company can fire you if you're a casual pot smoker, but not if you're a hard-core addict. Unless an employer can prove it would suffer undue hardship, it is required to accommodate an

employee's disabilities, including addiction, and that obligation even extends to hiring, says lawyer Howard Lewis, an expert on the law of dismissal. Anyone interviewing a job applicant with drug signs of drug addiction would do so with a "flag," he says. "It may not be a disqualifier, and it is not a criminal offence," [and] I would advise employers to say they may [appear] to have a potentially that level of impairment, [and they] cannot say the person appears addicted."

It's a particularly young issue in Alberta, where the wealth, youth and boredom of many of its people is a potent mix. The Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission recently reported a 25 per cent increase in chronic alcoholism at its Fort McMurray office over the previous 18 months. Considering the province's history of many workers' deaths, it's not surprising that the courts have been clear-eyed.

The longer long-term battle, however, is over drug testing in general. Most case law suggests it's only acceptable for "safety-sensitive positions," says Lewis. But the Court of Appeal made no such distinction. In Alberta, union representatives and business rights advocates complain that just about every body gets tested. Saskatchewan's Alan Moore confirms that all the company's new hires are pre-screened—banned if addicted.

In the U.S., where many of the same cases are based, the legal environment is much more open to testing, and the same standards are usually legislated. In Canada, they're the subject of angry union negotiations and court battles. Suzanne Chabaley, a labour lawyer who has represented unions in Alberta and Ontario, argues there's no evidence of a correlation between a positive pre-employment test and actual on-the-job impairment—or, conversely, that a negative pre-employment test guarantees a equally close employer.

A COMPANY CAN FIRE YOU IF YOU'RE A CASUAL POT SMOKER, BUT NOT IF YOU'RE AN ADDICT

Old company officials such as Moore are curbed to emphasize pre-employment testing is only "a way of saying no," in his safety law. To Chabaley, though, testing is a cap to a "time-tested business of privacy," bordering on "assault" and a disability.

Clearly, employers can win. And the Chisone case may not be the last. Jason Johnson, a lawyer with the Alberta HRC, says the commission may yet try to take it to the Supreme Court of Canada.



THE MYTH THAT JOHN CROSBIE IS A NICE GUY
"One of the first lessons I learned as an elected member was that everybody didn't love me. This is shocking when you first discover that there are people out there that actually think you are a worthless piece of dirt. Now, you know, of course, that they're pretty mistaken, but the fact that they think this comes as a great shock to you."—Newly appointed Minister-to-governor of Newfoundland and Labrador John Crosbie reflects on political life.

DAVID HARRIS/GETTY IMAGES

FROM LEFT: JAMES HARRIS/GETTY IMAGES; JAMES HARRIS/GETTY IMAGES

The naked truth—no cash back

BY MICHAEL FRASCOLANTE • An Ontario judge has reaffirmed one of life's unwritten rules: if you slip a dollar bill into a stripper's G-string, you can't take it back. Same goes for gold watches and diamond jewelry.

The man on the receiving end of that legal lesson is Ralph Pione, a Hamilton musician who spent eight after night livings in exotic entertainment with cash, flowers and other expensive gifts. Most of the time, he didn't even ask her to undress. He simply waited outside and shut—for \$100 an hour. At the top of page 11: "He was obsessed with me. He paid me for my company."

In 2004, Pione's favorite dancer decided it was time to get dressed and pursue a day job. A few months later, he slipped her with a letter, acknowledging that the return more than \$50,000.

During a one-day trial in December, Pione testified that the cash was actually false, and that the woman agreed in advance to repay



A STRIP CLUB regularly dressed he gave a dancer \$30,000 in 'loans'

"If I had known that this guy was going to cost me thousands of dollars, I would not have even bothered with him," says the former stripper, who spoke on the condition that her name and any cause not be published. "There are plenty of people you can make money from. I would have moved on to somebody else."

Neither Her nor his lawyer were available for comment, so it's unclear whether he's appealing the verdict. But whatever happens, watching a cash-trace loan cannot be found to a strip joint—no matter how many hand-drawn you have in your wallet, or how charming you think you are. "This is a fantasy business," says the former dancer. "And some people can't distinguish the difference between fantasy and reality." ■

Fraudsters have some new friends

BY HANKE MACDONALD • Beware wallet fraudsters: B.C. businessmen are joining the ranks of noted Facebook crooks—who may include your boss, your coon and your ex. Last week, the online magazine The Tyee revealed that the province is troll-



B.C. BUSINESSMANS are using sites like Facebook to find cheats

ing social networking sites like Facebook on the hunt for welfare defrauders. An "ice cream example" is someone claiming disability assistance—claiming to be wheelchair-bound, for instance—but on public Internet sites, they're playing volleyball in Mexico, says Richard Chambers, spokesperson for the B.C. Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance.

None of the other provincial departments charged with welfare delivery contacted by Macdonald admitted to using Facebook to investigate suspected fraud. "Between you and I, it just wouldn't hold up in court," said one spokesperson. Chambers concurs: "The information would never form the sole basis of any eligibility review. There's no way of knowing how accurate that information is—even with photographs. They could be doctored." Still, the ministry has used the "new tool" four times, he says.

Vancouver lawyer David Eby, of Pione Legal Society, saw a "night and day" initial stain in the way the welfare recipients are investigated in recent years, for example, city land lords, who have initiated welfare claims of their own. "This results from a philosophical belief that welfare recipients are trying to cheat the system," he says. "And they're easier targets" but the B.C. Civil Liberties Association isn't sounding the alarm. "Look, we don't have privacy concerns for people who get private information for public broadcast," says proponent Jason Gural. "If you're going to let government that you're living alone then let your Facebook that you're living with your partner, the fella is yours." ■

A classifying error or a bit of politics?

BY CIGDEM GANPRESS • When family doctor Ignat Sprizogel branched his business, Mobile Life Scouring, in Winnipeg last August, he had no shortage of clients. Within a few months, as many as 500 Manitobans had paid \$150 to bypass a month-long wait list and get screened for potentially fatal vascular diseases that cause strokes and aneurysms.

Then, in January, it all came to a grinding halt: The province said it ended when it told Sprizogel in 2006 that his business didn't fall within the bounds of its health act. In fact, it did, and it would not be approved in a lab test, the province concluded last month. The ruling not only forced Sprizogel to shut his business in Manitoba—and set up shop across the border in North Dakota—but it has landed him in the midst of what he sees as another battle pitting the long queues of the public health care system up against the burgeoning private health care industry. "They're saying they made a mistake in classifying us," says Sprizogel, an ultrasound technician. "To us, it sounds like politics."

Sprizogel continues to screen dozens of Winnipeggers who make the hour-long drive to North Dakota where he sets up to repair key clinics in local doctors' and nursing homes. Meanwhile, he's appealing his case with the province. The government insists this is not about shutting down private clinics. The move was based on concerns about quality of care, the lack of a registered lab



A RULING forced a Winnipeg health screening business to move north

physician directing the lab, and even the need for such assurance in Manitoba, says assistant deputy minister of health Terry Goormans. "We believe Manitoba patients who see their doctor can access these tests relatively quickly [here in four and 11 weeks]," he says. Underestimated, Sprizogel argues he's only offering what the province could in a timely way. If all the facts, he hasn't ruled out a lawsuit against the government. "Our goal," he concludes, "is to operate in Manitoba." ■

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WHY THE CLINTONS SHOULD'N'T BE PRESIDENT

Combative and restless, Bill Clinton would have inordinate influence behind the scenes—but with no accountability



BY LUIZA CH. SAVAGE

When Hillary Rodham Clinton presented her husband as her first official opponent in her presidential campaign, it was a widely photographed affair, designed to cast the former two-term president in the traditional role of supporting spouse and to contrast his polished looks, but a overshadow him. That was on a sunny day at the Iowa State Fair grounds in Des Moines, and Bill Clinton stood behind his wife, his hands resting supportively on her shoulders. Back then, the media concern about Bill was that once he opened his mouth, he might make Hillary sound a bit too wooden, a bit too Al Gore to Bill Clinton's Bill Clinton.

Yet no one doubted that Bill would be an asset in her campaign, drawing huge crowds to her events. And Hillary established herself as her husband's a dimension in the 1990s, when deftly weaved her way through the campaign, and Americans enjoyed good relations with their allies. "It did take a Clinton to clean up after the first debate," she liked to quip. "And I think it might take another one to clean up after the second Bush."

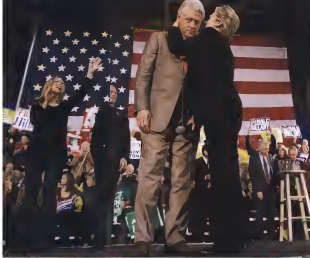
For a time it looked like Bill might be for Hillary what Dick Cheney was for candidate George W. Bush—a white friend, a supporting presence, one that, in the case of the Clintons, said, "My wife is the first woman president; let me do it for her." And it was a steady hand in the voters' ear that it was that the old guy in the corner didn't work any better for Hillary than

it did for George W. Bush as a judge hands have led them straight into hot water.

What was not so clear was a few ill-tempered comments on the campaign trail in South Carolina now has more and more Americans asking what precisely Bill Clinton's role would be in Hillary's potential White House—and whether she'd be able to control him. Much has been made of the novelty of the first "first gentleman." But the more serious question concerns the unprecedented scenario of a former president—a politically talented and famously irresponsible former president—returning to the White House in a country whose constitution forbids a third term. It's a question that had not figured in the campaign until Bill Clinton himself caused it to be raised—smaller Hillary Clinton's besting in the past to rise.

The irony is that, until his husband's recently signed comments in South Carolina, Hillary Clinton had done a masterful job as senator for New York, building her own persona. She would even take aim at some of his policies, for example, criticizing NAFTA, a key accomplishment of his presidency. But Bill Clinton managed to undo that. "This latest series of questions is a completely unhelpful dig at Bill Clinton," says Ed Troy, a McGill University historian who has authored books on the Clintons and other U.S. presidential couples. "What is his vision for his role? What is motivating him beyond anything loss for this woman he's so successful with for the years? It's a fascinating question."

Whether by intent or by design, Bill Clinton



son also donated the high endorsement he'd previously cultivated, and took to the small dog role with disturbing gusto. He began attacking Barack Obama's lack of experience, calling a potential Obama presidency a "roll

of the dice." He referred to the Clinton son as a "Bil"—even so when in the Clinton campaign were to label Obama the "Black candidate." With the race now moving, South Carolina turned against Hillary in

members greater than polls had predicted. Things left Clinton after that loss, with Bill Clinton comparing Obama to former black candidate Jesse Jackson. It was seen as belying "Jesse Jackson won South Carolina in

HILLARY HAD DONE a masterful job of building her own political persona until Bill stepped in and went on the attack.

'84 and '88. Jackson ran a good campaign. And Obama runs a good campaign too." The implication? Obama was just another black candidate in a state where African-Americans make up more than half the Democratic primary voters—a just down to a man who was running "not to black candidates the model of Jackson, but as the 'post-race' son of a black father and white mother who had scored a decisive victory in Iowa, where the black population was less than three per cent.

Clinton was immediately denounced. Wash. post's Pundit columnist Eugene Robinson called him a "cold-blooded political hit man." The most powerful African American in Congress, Jim Clyburn, told Clinton to "just chill." Donna Brazile, a former adviser to Clinton and former campaign manager for Al Gore, told CNN she was "inched." "For him to go after Obama using 'race talk,' calling him a 'Bil'... it's an insult. As an African American, I find his words and tone to be very depressing."

Not only did Clinton's own gripes reveal people of the Clinton's contribution in the 1990s, it also cast the woman who aspired to be the first female president in a rather unflattering light in distress. Perhaps, for Bill Clinton, it was personal. Obama had remarked at one point that Ronald Reagan was a more transformational president than him, saying Reagan "changed the trajectory of America in a way that Richard Nixon did not and in a way that Bill Clinton did not." Whatever the reason, Bill's efforts hurt his wife. CNN exit polls showed that 64 per cent of voters in the South Carolina Democratic primary said his campaigning was important in shaping their decision, and the majority of them voted against Hillary—48 per cent for Obama, 14 per cent for Edwards, and 37 per cent for Hillary.

But the Bill Clinton effect has far outlasted South Carolina, and promises to become a major campaign issue if Hillary does become the Democratic nominee. A few poll takers shortly before Super Tuesday showed that voters around the country were suddenly seeing on the face of the former president in entering the White House. The number of people saying "dislike" that jumped by seven points between October and January, from 34 per cent to 41 per cent.

Until now, Republicans had termed Bill Clinton's future as a long shot. But the trust has become more serious—and not just among the GOP candidates. Greg Craig, who's also a friend of Hillary's who coordinated Bill Clinton's endorsement defeat in 1998 but has since sided with Obama, has asked whether Hillary could control her husband in the White

House. And perhaps the biggest fallout from the letter was how Sen. Ted Kennedy's decision to throw his political left behind Obama, and also try to undermine him, the legacy and image of his brother, John F. Kennedy. Kennedy's aides confirmed that the letter rose in South Carolina pushed him over the edge. That endorsement—not to mention the backing of JFK's daughter Caroline—gave Obama a tie to Canada, as well as a vote of confidence from one of the most experienced Democratic hands in the country.

Americans have historically been very uncomfortable with anyone sharing the office of the presidency. After JFK made his brother Bobby his attorney general, Congress passed an act to prevent law to forbid family members of a president from holding cabinet offices. More recently, as a Jan. 27 New York Times op-ed entitled "Two Presidents are Worse than One," columnist Gary Wills argued that a co-presidency violates the spirit of the constitution, whose drafters debated and rejected the idea of a shared presidency in the interests of accountability. Wills accused the Bush administration of running a split presidency by allowing Cheney to assume unprecedented power in a vacuum in foreign and national security. "At a time when we should be trying to return to the single executive system the constitution prescribes, it does not seem to be a good idea to put another co-president in the White House," he wrote.

Back in 1992, candidate Bill Clinton put his wife in the spotlight, explicitly picking the idea of a co-presidency as "one-for-the-price-of-one." "When he quickly found that didn't sell, his campaign switched gears, casting Hillary as the kind of traditional spouse everyone in cookie-bake-off America has been led to believe was in the White House. Bush, Clinton assigned his wife to run a task force on health care reform, which did not end well. "One sees that clearly, in their hands, there is a notion of a co-presidency," says Try. "It is profoundly uncomfortable for a democracy created on rejection of a monarchy. The notion that you get all this power and standing simply because you are married to the president, male or female, is profoundly threatening to a democracy, because it creates the perception of a lack of accountability. You are not accountable."

Critics worry Clinton could be another Cheryl-type power behind the throne—with even less accountability. And given that she has said he would continue to make major foreign policy decisions, Clinton's move may be a bad idea. For which he has already selected more than 125 to 150 million, questions are arising to be asked about possible conflicts of interest. There are some fears as the secretaries and staff can give his wife's com-



'THE NOTION THAT YOU GET ALL THIS POWER SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU'RE MARRIED TO THE PRESIDENT IS THREATENING TO DEMOCRACY'



plaint—\$142,300. But his foundation and other initiatives face no such limits on the generosity of individuals or even foreign governments who seek to ingratiate themselves with his spouse (he has received donations from the Saudi royal family and the governments of Kuwait and Qatar, for example).

"His fundraising for the foundation is a significant personal conflict of interest," says Tom Patten of Judicial Watch, a government watchdog group that has blasted both the Clinton and Bush administrations over access to information and secrecy laws. "His wife will be providing it. It will be a vehicle for people trying to influence the president, and there can be no doubt that's what will happen, and it's already happening."

Already, the New York Times has reported the case of Canadian mining tycoon Frank Goss, who gave as pledged \$100 million to Clinton's charitable efforts after a joint trip to Kazakhstan in 2005. According to the Times, Goss was trying to court favor with the Kazakh government in an ultimately successful effort to buy into uranium projects controlled by the state-owned uranium agency. During the trip, Bill Clinton praised the Kazakh regime for its openness and attended a banquet for its strongman leader, while supporting Kazakhstan's bid to lead a human rights organization in Europe. Meanwhile, his wife had exposed negotiations about the regime. The one named after him, and the Washington Post has



week editorialized that "Mrs. Clinton must make clear that the husband's foreign policy decisions—whether or not it interests with the interests of his big glass—will have no place in a third Clinton administration."

But to members of the Clintons, the notion of bringing back Bill is one of Hillary's selling points. "It would be foolish to have such an asset available and not take advantage of that asset," says Gary Weldon, a political scientist at the University of Central Florida who has authored several studies about Hillary Clinton and the role of first ladies in U.S. history. He argues that Hillary Clinton showed that a spouse can play a constructive role in a presidency. Weldon notes that after the health care reform failure, the Clintons continued to work for the causes of women's and children's rights, mainly outside the U.S. She began with her speech to the Beijing UN conference on women, and as lobbyist for her husband to appoint Madeleine Albright as secretary of state, who then created a women's issues department within the State Department. Then Clinton

and Albright launched a joint governmental organization to monitor female leaders in developing countries. "Father than being trapped, the continued partnership her agenda was at a different level," says Weldon. "It worked on a global level in a way that it didn't at a domestic level."

According to some recent political memoirs, Hillary Clinton played a behind-the-scenes role in other areas of foreign policy, such as helping the British government under Tony Blair persuade her husband to go into Kosovo, convincing them to stick by the leadership of Boris Yeltsin in Russia, and serving as a back-channel communication between her and the governments of France, Israel and

TO THE CLINTONS' ADVANTAGE, bringing Bill back has been one of Hillary's selling points. "I think that Clinton would certainly advise her in the future," says Weldon. "But he would have to be up to the task to have that influence seem to be up to the task. If he's too involved, too much in the spotlight, he will make her look worse. That is the lesson we learned in South Carolina."

The details of Hillary's role in her husband's presidency are still largely secret. The Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock, Ark., holds the papers from those years, but Bill Clinton has instructed a to block the release of records relating to family members including Hillary (the library is now being sued by Judicial Watch). In a Hillary Clinton presidency, in the absence of a formal disclosure or private leaks, learning about Bill Clinton's role will be next to impossible. Patten says, because freedom of information laws would not apply to a husband without an official position. "I think it's fair to say it would be co-presidency. Will be institutionalized with her as the possibly with him? I don't know. That's almost incredible—you're getting into someone's earnings."

At a candidates' debate in Los Angeles on Jan. 31, Hillary Clinton was asked, "If your campaign can't control the former president now, what will it be like when you're in the White House?" She responded that her husband is a "passionate spouse," but not that at the end of the day, it's her name on the ballot. "And it will be my responsibility as president and commander-in-chief, after consulting heavily with a lot of people who have something to contribute to difficult decisions, I will have to make the call. And I am fully prepared to do that."

On Monday night, when she was a guest on the CNN show, host David Letterman again raised the issue of Bill Clinton set loose in the White House, "going through out" Hillary Clinton laughed quite hard and said, "In my White House, we will know who wants the penicillin." Maybe so. But McGovern's They agree on the right call on our conscience. He suggests making Bill her personal envoy to the AIDS crisis in Africa. "Bill Clinton is so young and so energetic and talented and organized to be put out to pasture," he says. "So you get him on a plane with Boris and get him out of the house." ■



MISSISSIPPI: TOO FAT TO EAT IN PUBLIC

A politician has cosponsored a bill in the state legislature that would force restaurants to have fat patients. The bill would change health regulations with closing facilities that allow heavy people in their establishments. In Mississippi, where two-thirds of the population is overweight, the proposal has more fierce opposition. Meanwhile, a restaurant industry lobbyist laments, "I've seen a lot of crazy laws but this one takes the cake. Literally."

Toxic words get their own dictionary

BY KATE UHLMANN Last week, German television host Juliane Ziegler was fired from her job after jokingly using the phrase *Arbeit macht frei* while chatting with a guest on air. Translated as "Work sets you free," those words were inscribed above the gates at the Auschwitz death camp. The usage is among hundreds of German expressions—from "dangers" to "Final Solution"—that are taken due to their association with the Nazi regime. Now, a new dictionary catalogues these Nazi sayings to help German speakers navigate their linguistic minefield. "We didn't want to wipe out these words," explained co-author Thorsten Fieß. "We want to make people more sensitive to [their] power."

Titled *Wörterbuch der 'Vergangenheitsbewältigung'* ("Dictionary of 'Coming to Terms with the Past'"), the book looks at some 1,000 expressions, from Lager ("concentration camp") to Soldaten ("soldiers") victims (or executioners), or following (the "Final Solution"), which spared mass killings of Jews. These words are specific, technical terms used by the Nazis to carry out their program of genocide, explains the University of Toronto's Jennifer Jenkins, who holds a Canada Research Chair in Modern German History. "They're toxic," she says. "They have a purely negative power. [It is not that] immediately call up that past." For example, German Cardinal Jochen Aebischer laid calls for his resignation last year after he publicly described anti-Semitism as a religion in exile (theologues?)—and the Nazis also used to attack modern art.



ACHTUNG: Understanding the power of Nazi words

Jenkins notes that this dictionary is part of an ongoing process in postwar Germany, grappling with a genre called past. "It has gone on at all levels," she notes. "There's no apology or amnesty, it's a very open confrontation." But at the Third Reich defers deeper into the history books, "people are more aware of how much that has to do with our world, perhaps that can be forgiven," Jenkins adds. A dictionary of those highly ideological words, which were used to cast dehumanizing ends, "is a recognition," she says. "It makes it visible." ■

Overcoming the virus of nationalism



WILL TADIĆ's election victory led to a more democratic Serbia

BY JESSAMINE TAYLOR With Serbia's pro-Western President Boris Tadić's victory over nationalist rival Tomislav Nikolić in last Sunday's election, the country took another tentative step toward consolidating its place as a stable democracy, and away from the direct nationalism that has marked the nation since Slobodan Milošević's rule in the 1990s. But Tadić's foothold is far from secure; he won the election with 51 per cent of the vote, leaving the radical right to form a strong opposition. On top of that, Tadić's own coalition partner, Prime Minister Vojislav Koštunica, refused to support the president's campaign because of Tadić's stance on Kosovo.

Although the president does not publicly support Kosovo independence—which the autonomous region of Serbia is expected to announce soon—he plans to move forward without aid to join the EU regardless of whether Kosovo secedes. But Koštunica, who holds much of the power in the country (the presidency is largely symbolic), insists that Serbia abandon its bid should the EU, as expected, recognize Kosovo's independence.

Can Tadić lead the country through the coming storm? "I think that [democratic stability] has to come after the Kosovo issue is solved," says Leonard Cohen, a Balkan politics expert at Simon Fraser University. "They have to get this territorial issue out of the Serbian bloodstream." While Cohen warns that Koštunica and the opposition could become an early postelection election, he has faith that Serbia's young, urban generation ready for more progressive politics, especially after seeing neighbours Romania and Bulgaria join the EU. "This is a historic election," says Cohen. "Ten or 15 years down the road, I see post-Serbia will have overcome this virus of nationalism that Milošević reinforced." ■

The Chinese dumpling controversy

BY PATRICIA TREMBLE In mid-January, Beijing was talking up the success of its campaign to improve the quality of its products after a year of scandal during which exports ranging from pet food to toothpaste were discovered to be riddled with toxic ingredients. Then, last week, Tokyo confirmed that at least 10 people had been poisoned by Chinese-made pork dumplings containing extremely high levels of an insecticide called methamidophos. One child was so seriously affected she was on a ventilator. Made in China food was yanked off supermarket shelves and out of school lunch programs throughout Japan. Hundreds of panicked consumers complained of a variety of ailments after eating food products made by Tianjinang Food.

For Japan, which imports at least US\$155 billion worth of food annually from its neighbour, the dangerous dumpling crisis came as a shock because Japan requires Chinese factories to conform to rigorous quality control standards and inspections. "I'm afraid the dumplings could cause a negative impact on our diplomatic ties," warned Japanese Foreign Minister Manohiro Kishida. "We should thoroughly take measures to determine the cause and prevent a recurrence before relations are damaged."

After Chinese consumers couldn't find pesticide in dumplings taken from the same batch as those exported, plant managers Menglu strenuously denied any possibility of contamination. "All products were fully tested for contamination and fully in accordance with the sanitary standards of China and Japan." While governments sent investigators to each other's countries, the Japanese media reported that a bag of the toxic dumplings had a tiny hole in it, suggesting sabotage. But given that the insecticide is widely used in China—and not approved for use in Japan—experts also point to faulty contamination.

Unfortunately, Japanese consumers know that their own food industry isn't as safe as they'd like. Last fall three famous confectionery companies were found to have changed recipe data to recycled stale ingredients in their products. ■



Accountants

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When Angela McWhann arrived as Vice President and CFO at the Hospital for Sick Children, she walked into a world-class medical facility that seemed to improve automatically. "Being a CMA taught me to be part of the team. You don't just say 'Hello, my budget!' You need to know accounting, yes, but you also need to understand the business. Angela manages a \$600 million budget, balances clinic and research expenditures, and helps build strong relationships with government. She oversees her CMA training for her success and her highly rewarding career. The challenge we care for her personally, but they always smile. They put it all in perspective. I love being part of this great hospital! To learn more about Angela, and to find out what a CMA can do for you, visit www.cma.ca.org



Certified Management Accountants

HOW LULULEMON LOST ITS BALANCE

With the stock down 50 per cent, investors are worried about 'Starbucks syndrome'

BY LIANNE GEORGE

Friends are more important than money—or so declares one of the daimos or co-Cladus Saps for the Yogi's Soul-style t-shirts of Lululemon Athletica's corporate manifesto. It's not a bad rule to live by, unless the friends you're trying to make are investors.

Only seven months have passed since the company first sold shoes to the public and a frenzy that built it as the second coming of the Gap. But lately, observers have taken to calling it the most overvalued stock in the retail industry. In late October, amid the ugly realities, the stock (LULU) surged to a high of US\$64.94, but soon began a plunging slide in early last week despite the US\$300. On Jan. 28, Lululemon was officially (and perhaps belatedly) downgraded by SMO Capital Markets to "underperform," only a week after an analyst for Goldman Sachs cut earnings estimates and price targets on the entire athletic apparel industry (including Lululemon) because of the looming fear of a U.S. recession. In times like these, apparently, high-tech hoodies and Google crop pants are among the first luxuries to go.

Chief executives for the brand insist that business systems strip despite the stock's recent tumble, and the numbers certainly tell the story of emerging retail pessimism. Sales in the most recent quarter, which ended Oct. 31, were US\$166.3 million, up from US\$156 million in the same stretch a year earlier. Quarterly profit more than quadrupled to US\$87.1 million. Now, Lululemon's executive team has devised an aggressive plan to expand over the next several years—aiming to double or triple its revenue base (a total of 76 locations in Canada, the U.S., Australia and Japan).

Even after recent declines in the stock, the company is still valued at US\$2.1 billion—thanks largely to the brand's devoted and growing legion of fans. Last week, in Calgary, LULULEMON SHOPPERS tend to be female, lining up for hours at word of a sale sale

offering of a larger fashion company.

But the yoga monthly gives the brand its authenticity in what may prove to be its wedding in the sport market. Lululemon was never intended to be a mass apparel operation. From the beginning, it targeted rich, slim and stylish women who aspire, as Oprah would say, to "live their best lives." But the quarterly growth rate of over 100 per cent is a public company's unfortunately common side walk with the happy dippy, not to know you sell—and the plan: to multiply upon what Lululemon's executive loyalty is predated. Between its expansion goals and its soaring stock, some observers say the company is exhibiting early signs of what might be called Starbucks syndrome.

Like the coffee giant, Lululemon has had great success selling specialty-priced products with alleged ideological underpinnings. But replicating a premium niche model for the mass market is a whole other thing. Starbucks, as Billie A. New Irish itself in a previous position, having expanded too aggressively—both geographically and to some of its range of products, which now in chain breakfast sandwiches and music compilations and more complex items.

Under the watch of former CEO Jim Donald, to stop the bleeding, the company has brought back its founder and former chairman Howard Schultz to replace his chair as CEO, close stores and scale back product offerings. Most recently, Starbucks began testing out a sit-in coffee in its hometown of Seattle, in an attempt to win back customers who've defected to McDonald's or Tim Hortons, where the coffee is cheaper and the quality—thanks to years of competition from Starbucks—is sufficiently high.

Perhaps an e-commerce site is a no-brainer that

Lululemon is been shopping at Starbucks for its executive team. Recently, it brought in Christine Day, who spent over two decades running growth at Starbucks, to be its executive VP of retail operations. In October, the company also hired former Starbucks senior vice president and chief financial officer Michael Curry to serve as its chief financial officer and its head of directors.

But coffee, at least, never goes out of style. That may not be true of yoga and its apparel—“misfit.” “Yoga is a word that we've seen before,” says Louis Papp, managing partner of the Toronto-based firm GWP&H Engineering, and it didn't necessarily have a lot of traction or longevity. “A 2005 survey by Yoga Journal found that 16.5 million people in the U.S. are practicing yoga. Which sounds like a lot, but that figure is the fad factor—and there are many others. According to a 2005 consumer survey, only 21 per cent of Lululemon sales are to customers seeking yoga-specific gear. The rest are either in the market for athletic wear for non-yoga purposes, or they simply enjoy the look of yoga-wear as a casual fashion statement.”

Already, there are signs that, much in the way Starbucks patterned out in the late '90s, a sort of yoga fatigue is setting in. Independent chain studios are being closed by the dozens in the U.S. and many of the remaining ones are consolidating, under chain like California-based Yoga Works. Yoga retreats, plagued by competition, are trying to attract the broader possible market by offering half-day or a blend of yoga and chocolate-tasting, or surfing. It's possible that soon only the hard core will remain, and along with the fashion, the yoga community could turn into a group of style tribes who defend fabrics and are anti-corporate attitudes could mean to them staying from an inspiring retail goal.

Until now, Lululemon has thrived, and generally succeeded, to position itself as a moral authority in the world of retail. But when “authenticity” and “integrity” are a

brand's key values, it has to be hyper-sensitive to integrity's potential threat to its credibility, particularly before it is well-established in the U.S., the holy grail of retail markets. Lululemon says, for instance, that its target customer is “globally aware.” But that could stop the company from moving the bulk of its production from Canada to China and Taiwan, where labour laws and environmental regulations are more lenient.

The first time many Americans ever heard of Lululemon, it was associated with a scandal that arose in November when the New York Times published a report finding that the brand's Vitamin products actually contain no significant amount of vitamin, which the company claimed gave them anti-bacterial, stress-reducing and anti-inflammation benefits. Lululemon agreed to voluntarily change the health claims on its Vitamin products. After, Herb Greenberg, a columnist for MarketWatch, wrote a column suggesting CEO Bob McEwen had suggested his professional modelists. Myers has declined to respond.

To some, it all seems like a company growing up too quickly. “My sense is that they were probably very naive,” says Philip. “There's a period of time where you start up and take a moral position, where you're going to be dealing with a lot of disruption and people trying to figure out if you're for real. That's not the time to make these mistakes, and partly from a branding perspective, that's not the time to go public.”

Be optimistic says Lululemon will succeed where a company like Starbucks faltered because it has a greater community-based approach to introducing new stores that makes it unique. Hopefully, before the company enters more markets, it will establish

to get to know the community, build relationships with local yoga and runners, and become involved in local events to ensure a good, strong fit. And their targeted growth rate is reasonable, says New York-based analyst for RBC Capital Markets Howard Tobias. “If you look at the square foot of growth rate, it's pretty significant,” he says. “It's around 50 per cent new square footage growth this year, but that's only because it's coming off a very small base. So I would say 10 to 15 per cent is not too aggressive.” But the Lululemon method is more concerning, which ultimately translates into being expensive.

“They're going to have problems,” says Mark Reiser of Accountability Research in Toronto. “I'm sure they'll have trouble roll-

ing out some of their stores and corporate culture to that many locations, and they're going to have a bit of a challenge getting the right people in there to manage it properly.” As Lululemon reaches this revised of success, it will need consumers who really know how to manage retail growth, which will eventually cause pressure to make themselves that are difficult to do as the company's brand culture. “The company is in effect a baby,” says Philip. “And there is a much more vulnerable to the core thing is that the capital one has to go to being to the expert.”

One hallmark of the Starbucks strategy is already in the works. The company is planning to broaden its product line, in part to diversify the risk of yoga fatigue, adding apparel for other sports, like ski. But accusations and momentum. All this to bolster growth and perhaps to justify the brand's lofty expectations. When they start introducing breakfast sandwiches, we'll know they're in trouble. ■



STYLING: KATHARINE VAN DER WERF/STYLING

REDEFINING OFFICE CHARITY

Increasingly, giving at work means being a champion for a cause

BY CATHY DILLI • Prostate and business activities almost nothing motivate, except that most men have both. Then, last year, the rationale for the Larry Rosen Spring Run Off, a fundraiser for the cancer research of the University of Toronto and Vancouver to raise money for prostate cancer research. "We looked at our position as the business sector on men's health," says Larry Rosen, chief executive of the fire apparel division (and son of the company namesake), "and here's a cancer affecting men—who were appropriate fit could there have been for us to take up this cause?" The goal, says Rosen, is to start a man in every market where the company has a store. On second thought, he adds, "Ultimately, we want to see prostate cancer. This isn't just something that's to support."

It used to be that the way companies donated to charity was via the big fat cheque, often framed on giant cardboard, and printed with flashing custom built and local appeal. But a comprehensive new survey of more than 2,000 Canadian companies with annual revenues exceeding \$100,000 reveals that other philanthropic models are taking hold. For instance, employee volunteerism and "cause marketing"—the kind Larry Rosen is showcasing—are two crucial ways that businesses are giving back, says the report by Imagine Canada, an Ottawa-based non-profit organization that promotes the charitable sector. "It's not just about the charitable sector. It's not just about engagement," says president Georgia Stoney-Schwartz. "It's about about engagement."

The examples go far beyond Larry Rosen, and run the gamut from modest start-ups to huge multinationals. BSC Royal Bank announced last autumn that it would make a \$10 donation to the Stuart Community of Canada every time a collect pen or ink is sent across from paper wastebins. The bank has also signed with Men'sline's ONE DROP Foundation in support of global access to water. Similarly, Neptun Systems has raised money for breast cancer research. And M.A.C. Cosmetics has developed an entire line of make-up, Viva Glam, with sales helping to raise funds for AIDS.

All this is proof that a new "enlightened

view" of corporate philanthropy is taking shape, one that calls for a "direct per employee" with fewer non-profit, says John Polosa, a professor of marketing at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, B.C. While the Imagine Canada report, entitled "Business Contributions to Canadian Communities," indicates that just eight per cent of companies are teamed up with a charity for some form of cause marketing, it's increasingly seen as a worthwhile venture. Polosa says that the non-profit organizations benefit by receiving a portion of the money collected. It also gets to tap into a company's management, human resources and marketing expertise—often in short supply at cash-strapped charities.

Meanwhile, the company "is seen as committed and willing to give their resources," says Polosa, and is also available to any brand. "If people think you're a good organization, it's going to reinforce their perception," says Rosen. And it may be the most cost-effective way for a company to contribute to the non-profit sector. "When I give you a dollar of

cost, it costs me a dollar," says Kenneth Wong, professor of marketing at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont. "When I give you a dollar's worth of services, it costs me less." But the perceived value may be higher depending on the charity's needs and how well the partnership resonates with customers, he says.

Companies are also engaging in philanthropy that helps the sector to their own staff. The largest Canadian post shows that almost half of all businesses, or 41 per cent, support employee volunteerism as a way of contributing to the non-profit sector. Among this group, more than three-quarters of companies adjust employee work schedules to allow them time to volunteer with a charity. And 47 per cent actually pay their staff to take time off for volunteering, while 57 per cent allow unpaid time off.

The Home Depot is a prime example of this type of corporate giving: hundreds of its employees, who often have various trade skills, regularly help build homes with Habitat for Humanity. Creating affordable housing connects the company to a community's needs. And "building trades is relevant to their business and employees," explains Polosa.

More than one-third of companies that support volunteerism allow their employees access to equipment and facilities for charitable activities. These businesses have donated tools, cars in handy. And when employees volunteer, 40 per cent of these businesses

say they match their contributions.

The biggest success story, the Calgary-based oil and gas giant that sponsored the Imagine Canada report—Shell—is 10 million in 2007, says Mary Ann Bloomer, manager of community involvement. Enbridge also has an October matching campaign. It made \$1.5 million last year between the company and employees. And on Feb. 14, Enbridge will launch a program to encourage family volunteering for every charitable hour put in by each family member of a week. It will make a cash donation.

"Our parent is also asking you to realize that what employees want," says Polosa, who believes that promoting volunteerism can also serve a human way to attract or retain diverse talent. "People like to know that they work at a company that cares." It says it focuses on the employee's workplace, said Stoney-Schwartz. And for business, volunteerism can be a development opportunity for staff, employees gain a broader social perspective, and learn a slew of skills that can be applied in the workplace.

Of course, even with the good held by these sophisticated philanthropic models, the Imagine Canada report makes it clear that the traditional channel for corporate giving—the over-reliance on cash—has far from disappeared. Fully 78 per cent of businesses say they donate money to charity, which makes it the most common way of contributing to the non-profit sector among the corporate community. Make no mistake: "There's still lots of big dollars going out the door," says Stoney-Schwartz.

Roughly \$131.60 for the average corporate donation, according to the report, or almost three per cent of a company's yearly sales (that sum also includes donated goods, services, sponsorship or cause marketing).

And it's not just large corporate players doing out the megabucks. Large companies (with annual sales of \$10 million or more) donate 40 per cent of the total value of support. But smaller businesses (with revenue between \$100,000 and \$499,999 a year) actually contribute 41 per cent. And they give more as a percentage of total sales.

Across the board, companies "are giving more than they ever have," says David DeLoe, man



Corporate workers are a vital source of volunteer labour, and many companies are encouraging such work.



gery Kaulage. It has developed a volunteer program with Big Brothers Big Sisters, but also makes direct money contributions to other groups. She says that while cause marketing and employee volunteerism offer significant benefits to charities, there are times when a gift of cash, hard cash is the best way to help out a financially strapped organization. This is especially true if a charity needs immediate assistance, or if a business is reluctant to commit to a long-term partnership with a non-profit. "There are times when it's better to let the funds go [straight] to the charity," says DeLoe.

The need for corporate support, says Wong, is not just for financial funding and support for social programs from other government dollars. "Private citizens can't get those dollars," he explains, "so corporations are being asked to do this." In Kingston, for example, there are five fundraising drives going on for various causes, including a city storm risk and the YMCA. So companies are also helping out by donating their products (10 per cent of businesses do), services (41 per cent), and by collecting money from customers or suppliers (32 per cent).

All this need, however, can create a backlash among companies. "Some businesses

feel that they've given in a corporate initiative, it's the government off the hook," explains DeLoe. While only one per cent of businesses do not support the non-profit sector at all (as measured by Imagine Canada), even among companies that donate there's frustration. 39 per cent agree it's difficult to respond to the rising number of requests for contributions. "Companies have expressed a degree of donor fatigue," says Wong. "They're always getting hit upon" for more support.

For those companies that don't contribute to charity, one of the big reasons (by 58 per cent of them) is that they don't have a way of measuring the impact of managing the impact of their money will have. Stoney-Schwartz acknowledges. "You want to know that you're getting a return on investment when you put money into something," she says. But with community contributions "the return isn't always quantifiable."

Then again, with 91 per cent of businesses reporting that they do, in fact, contribute to the non-profit sector, and 78 per cent saying they'll donate even without company benefits, it's clear most companies acknowledge the importance of giving whatever they might—no per cent. "It's a growing trend with businesses," says DeLoe. "Corporations have value too."

But unmet, low business will suffer badly for giving to charity. Even though it's difficult to measure the benefits of corporate philanthropy, it's equally tough to imagine it being anything less than "a positive thing," says Rosen. Both for the non-profit organizations and the business. "It didn't make any difference, to corporations would still [the public] that they did. They'd give anonymously," he says.

"The reality is, we do do," he says, "we're generous, we're generous. We think the reality is, we're doing." Men profit, it seems, isn't the only best friends of a little charity. ■

Giving away cash is still the most common form of corporate philanthropy, but many firms are getting more directly involved.



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EMPLOYEE
in the
WEEK

WEARING SHORTS IN WINTER IS A BREEZE
In 1996, four Calgary UPS employees made a bet to see who could wear the longest in the company's summer shorts. Last week, one of them, Shawn Fink, wore them for \$400 on the line. After 11 years, his colleagues gave him shorts when the price was set to \$400. "I was the only one who had them in. I was the only one wearing shorts, summer and winter. I don't even own any UPS pants," he says. "I gave them back five years ago."



With his ears baring from an angry alligator snarl of unassisted crumple: first, Transit promises the like daily operational sometime in February. Until then, patience. Or, perhaps, you could try a scooter with some

Management

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WHERE ARE STUDENTS LEARNING THE MOST?

A study of 610 universities suggests that smaller schools are best—and finds Canadian universities falling short of their U.S. peers

BY SANDY FARRAN AND TONY KELLER
 It's mid-January, a couple of weeks after the Christmas break, and Mark Woodcroft, a fourth-year biochemistry major at Trent University, is hanging out at the lab with professor Steven Kieffler. His research supervisor and chair of Trent's chemistry department, Woodcroft is doing what many Canadian undergrads never get a chance to do: an independent research project under faculty supervision.

So, a reporter asks, what's your research project about? Woodcroft turns a sly smile at his prof and then launches into an explanation of the "bioaccumulation of perfluorinated carboxylic acids." His words come predictably befuddled. Woodcroft nods his head. He and Kieffler double in unison. It sounds like a well-rehearsed routine. Not something many 13-year-olds get

to cook up with a professor.

"It's upper-year course, the data doesn't lend itself enough for a professor to know each student by name," says Woodcroft. "It's like each student has his own program by name. I don't have many students at a larger school can say that."

Personal contact with faculty members, a sense of community among undergrads and classes that push students to their intellectual limits—these are all things that many undergrad students desire. Research suggests that these ideas go down like sugar in the language of the National Survey of Student Engagement, these and other aspects of student engagement are "correlates of quality."

And according to the NSSE Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice results appearing on the following pages (see pages 46 to 44), undergraduate educational quality at Canadian universities—with only a few excep-

tions—is below that of American universities. On the following pages, you will also find results from the Canadian Undergraduate Survey Consortium, or CUSC, a Canada-only survey that stretches itself toward testing student satisfaction. In 2007, CUSC surveyed first-year students at 12 universities. The answers to two key CUSC student satisfaction questions are featured on page 46. NSSE asked two student satisfaction questions as well, the results for those questions are also published here. You can find results for seven additional CUSC student satisfaction questions on our website, at www.nsls.ca/campus.

While undergraduate student satisfaction remains relatively high at Canadian institutions, the NSSE benchmark results suggest a different story unfolded at not many Canadian universities compared to top-performing and may not be offering as good an educational experience as their American peers. And despite this, NSSE is regularly pronounced as Canada's largest research universities—the schools educating the one million respon-



Q&A QUESTIONS: Small school, small school, but most large ones (U of T, U of C) don't. Why?
 The American-based NSSE survey is a tool widely used by universities to analyze, benchmark and improve their institutional performance. Since 1999, the American-based NSSE (pronounced "Nessie") has been conducting its survey on a growing number of campuses, and calculating its Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice for each participating school. Beginning in 2004, a growing number of Canadian universities began to take part in NSSE. The biggest push came from Bob Rait's 2005 review of post-secondary education in Ontario. Rait called on the province's post-secondary institutions for evaluating quality and public transparency on campus performance. In his review, Rait asked, "How are we doing? How are others doing? Is there a jurisdiction that does it better?" His conclusion: "We simply don't know enough about how we are doing or how others are doing." Rait said, Rait recommended that Ontario universities participate in NSSE. All Ontario universities have done so over the past two years, and now universities in the rest of the country have joined them. Several of the 47 universities that Maclean's magazine in annual rankings of Canadian universities have never participated in NSSE, they include Dalhousie

THE SURVEYS: WHAT THEY ARE, AND HOW THEY WERE DONE

The following pages contain the results from two major student surveys: the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and the Canadian Undergraduate Survey Consortium (CUSC). The NSSE and CUSC surveys, which were commissioned by the universities, ask more than 150 questions about specific aspects of the undergraduate experience—inside the classroom and beyond—aiming to provide universities with data to help them assess programs and services.

The U.S.-based NSSE began in 1999 and is distributed to first- and second-year students. NSSE is a primarily a student satisfaction survey but is rather a study of best educational practices, and an assessment of the degree to which each university follows these best practices. In 2004, 11 Canadian universities participated for the first time in NSSE. With 14,767 students completing the survey. By 2006, that number had grown to approximately 60,000 students at 31 Canadian institutions. Seventeen universities or their affiliates participated in the 2007 NSSE, representing roughly 14,000 students—fewer than in 2006 because most institutions conduct the NSSE survey every two years.

The NSSE results are headlined by the Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice, created by NSSE. It compares performance across all universities—American and Canadian—in five key areas: Level of Academic

Challenge; Student-Faculty Interaction; Active and Collaborative Learning; Faculty Educational Experience; and Supportive Campus Environment. Each school's benchmark results are compared to a survey of questions NSSE also asked non-participant student satisfaction questions, which by school results appear on the following pages. CUSC was created in 2004. It is a Canada-only survey, unlike NSSE. It is a large part of student satisfaction survey in 2007.

32 universities took part, including two institutions—U of C and the University of New Brunswick—that surveyed multiple campuses. Surveys were sent to a random sample of approximately 1,000 first-year undergrads at each university. Institutions with fewer than 1,000 first-years surveyed the entire first-year class. More than 12,000 students responded. Two CUSC student satisfaction questions are featured in this issue of the magazine. For the results of seven other CUSC satisfaction questions, visit maclean.ca/campus.

READING THE CHARTS

The charts published on the accompanying pages list 41 universities, including affiliates, that participated in recent NSSE surveys, as well as 31 university campuses surveyed for the 2007 CUSC. In each chart, universities are listed in descending order. When displaying the NSSE benchmark charts, universities are listed in descending order of their scores associated with their senior-year students for student satisfaction questions, and play determined by the percentage of survey participants who chose the highest level of satisfaction when responding, for example, "excellent."

The NSSE and CUSC surveys include more than 150 questions, we have published these—the five key NSSE benchmarks, plus two satisfaction questions taken from NSSE and CUSC—that are the most broad and summative of student experience. NSSE charts include universities taking part in the 2004 or 2006 surveying, as well as one institution (Bogazici) that led conducted the survey in 2005. In each case, we display results from the most recent survey year. No data from first-year students are displayed for Royal Roads University as this institution does not include results from the three Western affiliates, each of which conducted its own survey.

For a listing of additional CUSC results, as well as data from past NSSE, CUSC and Maclean's charts, please visit www.macleans.ca/campus on "Rankings."

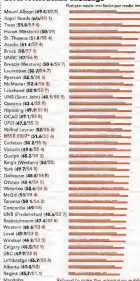
PHOTOGRAPH BY GEORGINA STUBBLE
 PHOTOGRAPH BY COLIN O'CONNOR

NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (NSSE)

Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice

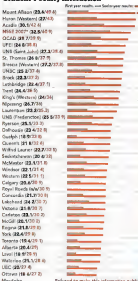
The NSSE survey asks undergraduate nearly 100 questions to assess how engaged they are with their schools, their professors and their peers. Student engagement has been shown to be highly correlated with learning. The benchmarks compare engagement at all universities—American and Canadian—in five key areas, "Level of Academic Challenge" measures the intellectual demands on students, measuring both the number of assigned readings and written reports, as well as coursework that emphasizes learning and transforming information into more complex interpretations. "Student-Faculty Interaction" gauges professors as mentors, measuring how often students meet with faculty to discuss career plans or ideas, or work with them on research projects or other activities outside of class.

Level of Academic Challenge



Refused to make this information public

Student-Faculty Interaction



Refused to make this information public

ACADEMIC RECORD 30 40 50
NSSE 2007 represents results from 170 Canadian and American universities.

University, Cape Breton University, St. Francis Xavier University, Memorial University, University of Moncton and Université de Sherbrooke.

Most universities on both sides of the border initially kept their NSSE and CUSC reports confidential or only released selected bits of information, it was only after Mac-

lell's, backed by the power of provincial access to information laws, began asking for NSSE and CUSC results that the majority of Canadian universities began to go public. We began asking for the latest survey results four months ago, the only ranked university that failed to make public all of its NSSE and CUSC information in time for publication

was the University of Manitoba.

On the following pages, you will find results for 41 Canadian institutions that participated in NSSE in 2005, 2006 or 2007. NSSE also first-year and fourth-year students participating in participating schools nearly 100 questions about what they have been doing during their university careers. It is not a student

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NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (NSSE)

Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice

Updated below and on the previous and following pages are results for 60 Canadian universities as affiliates that took part in NSSE in 2004 or 2007, as well as one (Queen's) whose students completed the survey in 2005. In all cases, results for the most recent survey year are displayed. Active and Collaborative Learning assesses involvement and teamwork, measured by how often students work with classmates, make class presentations, or participate in community-based projects. Enriching Educational Experience recognizes that diversity and complementary learning opportunities enhance academic programs. This includes internships and co-ops, community service, study abroad, as well as a campus environment that promotes contact among students from different backgrounds.

Active and Collaborative Learning

Post-year results	Pre-year results
Regina (2007) (26.6/33.3)	
Brescia (Western) (26.6/32.5)	
St. John's (26.6/32.5)	
Mount Allison (22.6/31.4)	
Acadia (20.5/31.3)	
Sydney (18.5/31.2)	
OCAD (18.6/30.6)	
NSSE 2007* (15.4/28.9)	
UNB (Saint John) (26.1/29.4)	
Lehigh (21.6/29.1)	
UPR (24.6/29.1)	
UNBC (28.6/28.6)	
Trinity (25.4/28.2)	
Simon Fraser (26.4/28.2)	
UNB (Fredericton) (25.2/28.2)	
St. Thomas (26.1/28.2)	
Wilfrid Laurier (27.7/28.4)	
Memorial (28.2/28.4)	
Guelph (24.5/28.2)	
Lehigh (25.5/28.2)	
McMaster (28.4/28.4)	
Regina (22.6/28.4)	
Level (22.6/28.4)	
King's (Western) (26.4/28.4)	
Calgary (25.7/28.2)	
York (24.6/28.2)	
Queen's (26.1/28.4)	
Laurentian (21.1/28.2)	
Saskatchewan (21.2/28.2)	
Concordia (24.6/28.2)	
Dalhousie (25.1/28.2)	
Carleton (20.2/28.2)	
Victoria (22.6/28.2)	
Western (22.6/28.2)	
Windward (22.6/28.2)	
Alberta (22.6/28.2)	
Ottawa (22.6/28.2)	
McGill (24.6/28.2)	
Western (22.6/28.2)	
UBC (24.6/28.2)	
Waterloo (22.6/28.2)	
Toronto (22.6/28.2)	
Moncton	

Refused to make this information public

Enriching Educational Experience

Post-year results	Pre-year results
Mount Allison (27.3/31.3)	
Acadia (28.1/31.3)	
NSSE 2007* (26.5/31.3)	
Simon Fraser (27.3/31.3)	
Queen's (27.5/31.3)	
Waterloo (26.8/31.3)	
Guelph (24.7/31.3)	
Brescia (Western) (27.2/31.3)	
McGill (26.8/31.3)	
McMaster (25.6/31.3)	
York (25.3/31.3)	
Ryerson (25.2/31.3)	
Trinity (26.2/31.3)	
UNB (Fredericton) (23.8/31.3)	
Calgary (24.1/31.3)	
Laurentian (22.6/31.3)	
Wilfrid Laurier (25.4/31.3)	
UBC (25.3/31.3)	
Alberta (26.2/31.3)	
UNB Saint John (24.5/31.3)	
Lehigh (27.1/31.3)	
Dalhousie (23.3/31.3)	
Western (26.1/31.3)	
OCAD (23.3/31.3)	
Carleton (24.3/31.3)	
Victoria (24.5/31.3)	
UNBC (25.7/31.3)	
Ottawa (22.6/31.3)	
Regina (22.6/31.3)	
Windward (22.6/31.3)	
King's (Western) (24.7/31.3)	
St. Thomas (24.2/31.3)	
Lehigh (24.7/31.3)	
York (21.2/31.3)	
UPR (22.6/31.3)	
Toronto (22.6/31.3)	
Regina (22.6/31.3)	
Waterloo (22.6/31.3)	
York (22.6/31.3)	
Saskatchewan (22.6/31.3)	
Concordia (22.6/31.3)	
McGill (22.6/31.3)	
Waterloo (22.6/31.3)	
Toronto (22.6/31.3)	
Moncton	

Refused to make this information public

NSSE 2007 represents results from 410 Canadian and American universities

information survey; it asks students to report on the mechanics of their classes, student habits and life in university. The questionnaire how often they meet outside of class with faculty members to how often they were involved in group work with other students—cover aspects of educational practice that have been shown to promote student

engagement, which itself has been shown to promote more and better learning.

For example, faculty supervised, independent research projects like the one undertaken by Woodworth would have helped to boost a university's Student-Faculty Interaction. Enriching Educational Experiences and Level of Academic Challenge benchmark scores

"What's important to stress is that NSSE doesn't directly measure learning outcomes. It measures engagement," says Kim Norms of the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO), which advises government on improving all aspects of post-secondary education, including quality, access and accountability. "If you believe in your

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The Supportive Campus Environment benchmark recognizes that students perform better at schools that support academics and non-academic well-being, and that culture is positive relationships among students, faculty and staff. Surprisingly, scores at many schools decline between first and fourth year.

Plot your results, and compare your results.



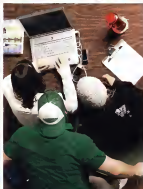
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of research that engagement is consistently highly correlated with learning outcomes and we can measure engagement through something like the NSSE survey, then we have a proxy for learning outcomes which you can reasonably associate with learner quality."

about the undergraduate learning experience at Canadian universities? A good number of Canadian universities—mostly smaller, primarily undergraduate institutions, but including larger institutions such as Ryerson, Queen's and McMaster—have or exceeded the 2002 NSSE Level of Academic Challenge

CHALLENGING CLIME Many Canadian schools scored well in terms of academic challenge, but fell below the U.S. average in other areas.

benchmark average of the results from 640 mostly American universities. The academic challenge benchmark is made up of questions covering areas such as how much time students spend preparing for class, the number of textbooks assigned, number of written papers assigned, and coursework that involves



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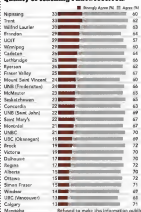


CANADIAN UNDERGRADUATE SURVEY CONSORTIUM (CUSE)

Student Satisfaction Results

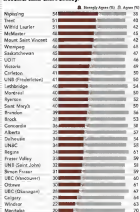
The CUSE survey is an annual study with a focus on student satisfaction. The 2007 survey, whose results are featured below, canvassed 362,947 students for their opinions. Participating universities sent out extensive questionnaires to a random sampling of up to 1,000 students, asking questions about everything from academics to support services. In 2007, nearly 13,000 students responded.

Generally, I am satisfied with the quality of teaching I have received.



Refused to make this information public

I am satisfied with my decision to attend this university.



Refused to make this information public

Analysis and synthesis alone.

A far number of Canadian universities, usually smaller institutions—also included the NSSE benchmark for Supportive Campus Environment. The supportive campus environment benchmark focuses on whether the campus provides the support students need to succeed academically and thrive socially, and assesses the quality of students' relationships with their peers, professors and the administration.

Set on the remaining three benchmarks, few Canadian universities met the American standard. A handful of well-known undergraduate schools, led by Mount Allison University and Acadia University, are among those that consistently exceeded their American peers. Interestingly, while the University of Western Ontario did not register above-average scores, two of Western's affiliated colleges—Huron and Bosc-

well—scored highly in all areas.

The Student Faculty Interaction benchmark—where no Canadian university exceeded the NSSE first-year benchmark—was only three surpassed the fourth-year average—focus on the different ways that students interact with faculty members inside and outside of the classroom. Students are asked, for example, whether they have worked with a professor on activities outside of coursework, talked about career plans with a faculty member, received personal feedback from faculty on their academic performance and worked with a faculty member in a research project.

The overall finding: many of Canada's students attend large, research-focused universities. Can institutions of such size offer top-level undergraduate experiences, as defined by NSSE? Results from the University of Michigan, a place public university that is also one of America's leading research

powerhouses, suggest that it is possible.

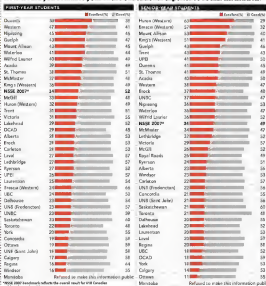
What is Michigan doing right in undergraduate education? Earlier this decade, Michigan was one of 20 American universities identified by NSSE as having performed on the NSSE benchmarks. A NSSE-commissioned study visited each of the participating campuses to find out what practices were leading to these high NSSE benchmark scores. For example, explaining Michigan's success on the Student Faculty Interaction benchmark, the study cited Michigan's small classes and research opportunities in first-year programs that encourage students and faculty to sit next to each other, mentorship programs, extensive email contact between students and faculty and professors' offices that are located in residence halls. On the level of Academic Challenge benchmark, the study pointed to a commitment to coordinate this process: the entire Mich-

NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (NSSE)

Student Satisfaction Results

The NSSE survey is not primarily a student satisfaction survey. The main purpose of NSSE is to assess what students are doing—as well as the benchmarks on pages 40, 42 and 44—to act for their schools. However, NSSE includes some satisfaction questions, including one asking students to evaluate their educational experience. Most institutions' scores declined from first to fourth year.

How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?



*NSSE 2007 benchmark reflects the overall result for US Canadian and American universities

Refused to make this information public

Refused to make this information public

igan campus faculty interaction to graduate education, introductory courses designed to challenge students' ability to think critically, and small classes that encourage some learning and challenge students to develop critical thinking and independence in writing and research projects.

NSSE director Alex McCormick says while universities can use NSSE to improve, "there are things that take some educational effort

to move the needle. It's not quite as simple as saying, 'Let's do this and we'll see if it works.' And while he believes that universities can learn a lot about best practices from one another, he cautions that it's not always easy to make direct comparisons. Schools that enroll a large number of adults or non-traditional students, for example, are likely to have lower scores because students have less time to spend on campus and, as a result, tend to be

less engaged than traditional undergrads living on campus. "So the same school's next traditional undergraduate population may be just as engaged as undergrads at other campuses. "There is a robust body of evidence that shows that the vast majority of the variation in individual student scores is within institutions, not between institutions," says McCormick. "So if you look at all the individual students that are surveyed and

NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (NSSE) Student Satisfaction Results

NSSE is primarily an objective look at life and learning on campus, but it also asks students to answer a few reflective questions. In general, senior students are more critical when evaluating their university experience. While the majority of students would choose to return to their alma mater, drops—in some cases sharply—for students in their final year as compared to freshmen.

If you could start over, would you go to the institution you are now attending?



look at variation in their responses to the NSSE items, about 90 per cent of that variation occurs within institutions and only about 10 per cent is between institutions." As a result, says McCormick, "distilling it down to a number or set of numbers for an institution may mask variations among departments or faculties at the same university. McCormick says that NSSE needs to find ways "to help institutions and leaders look more

deeply into variation within their walls." In other words, the really interesting story may be one like two of the benchmark scores from Western's all-time college, which are above those of Western itself.

Norris of Ontario's HSCQCO sees a similar promise in NSSE. Canadian universities are really still in the early stages of drilling down to examine variations among faculties, departments, courses and even gender and

ethnic background. But Norris says he regularly hears from university administrators who have let us revealing findings. "When you start doing variations in NSSE results across faculties or departments, you see some interesting variations, you say, 'Okay, what's going on?'" says Norris. "And that gets you into a conversation about what explains the variation and the different ways of teaching and learning."

Phil Wood, academic vice-president of student affairs at McMaster University, has established his own mini-benchmark from a set of 16 NSSE questions that serve as an index of particular interest to him: academic growth and development. Because Wood envisions student success, he's interested in figuring out things like: "What's best for a student to live in residence? Do students living in residence report higher NSSE engagement scores and higher scores on his main benchmark?"

In 2006, the University of Toronto announced that it is in a way similar to the University of Michigan in terms of its size and the quality and breadth of the graduate and research programs it offered. However, says Chambers, it's not as well known as the University of Michigan. Chambers is often called upon to discuss the state, and limits, of NSSE, particularly in the Canadian context.

"The system is considerably and extremely nuanced and I think for us to compare what happens in the States to what happens in Canada is sort of a worthless analysis, to be quite honest," says Chambers. "It gives us a sense of what institutions are doing, for sure, where we can make some decisions at an institutional level, but in terms of systems of education, I don't think the analysis is worth a whole lot, quite honestly."

Chambers says that some NSSE questions use terms not in wide currency in Canada, or terms that some students may interpret differently than their American counterparts. This could affect the answers offered by Canadians.

Despite its limitations, NSSE is proving to be a valuable diagnostic tool for Canadian universities. Back at Trent, president Bonnie Patterson says NSSE has helped to solidify what she and her colleagues already knew: that Trent is a smaller, tighter-knit campus, where students experience a good number of small classes, with professors who will probably know them by their first name, and opportunities to do research or independent study with a faculty member.

For Patterson, NSSE's value added is that it offers comparisons among institutions and highlights areas needing improvement. Partly in response to its findings, Patterson says that Trent has channelled resources into five key areas, including library resources and technology in the classroom. "This is always a



WE HAPPY FEW: Students at Mount Allison have reason to smile.

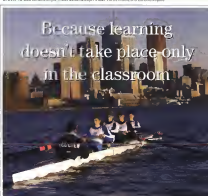
much longer list of what you can't do than the list of what you can do," she says. "Would I have loved to put money into having another 15 or 20 faculty members? Yes, but. You have to find the balance of what makes you sustainable."

about in student opinion and is ineffective and often makes you successful in learning outcomes, but at the same time trying to be responsive to them allows from a constant perspective."

All Canadian universities struggle with trade-offs: whether to buy more professors or build an efficient core, upgrade labs, fund new research or offer more undergraduate courses. Like Patterson, university administrators say that surveys such as NSSE and CUSC have helped in this process. "It validates, it informs, it gives us a better insight into the detail of what we're doing," says Patterson. "Rather than our own perceptions, or hot examples or anecdotes, it gives you large aggregate pieces that we didn't have before we got these surveys." ■

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Want to see more student survey results? For seven additional CUSC questions, as well as data from past NSSE and CUSC surveys, go online at www.macleans.ca/oncampus. Also on our website, view Maclean's exclusive survey methodology data, use our Personalized University Ranking Tool and search our database of over 18,000 scholarships in our Scholarship Finder. All at [macleans.ca/oncampus](http://www.macleans.ca/oncampus).



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CAMPUS FOOD: OUR REVIEWERS DINE OUT

McMaster Commons Marketplace ★★★

Located in the centre of McMaster's north residence quad, the Commons is not the coolest place to find, but following the crowd will get you there. After dodging a massive slushy snowing through a snow-covered lake (ah, engineering students), we came—and found ourselves in the middle of a traffic jam. The problem, a huge lineup at Chef Tony's popular pizza and tateriery station.



HUNGERED: Salami pizza, garlic bread and

(burgers and fries) and "Healthy Choice." In the centre of the scene is a salad bar, which offers fresh food, but unfortunately at a premium price. What is it with university cafeterias and overpriced produce?

Being as a budgeter, I set out to cover the government's food program in the lowest possible cost. Only *quaranteed food groups*, which I will forgo today, consist of grains, such as, coffee, and chicken fingers. It is interesting the non-benefit for me. I order up a 12 inch

turkey sub with cheddar and veggies for \$5.50. It is well stacked, and though the bread is not Subway quality, you get more sub in size here than two there. I walk back to Tony's, where the lineup is now out the door. I get asked, a five-minute wait of value and rice for \$10. Pricey, but service isn't cheap.

I stop at Pacific Bites and pick up some rice, noodles and chicken balls. \$6. And before leaving, I grab a garlic bread.

The vendor the chicken balls could use a little more chicken and the garlic bread could be a little less bread. The beverage selection is also limited; finger about grumpy, not then can compare or without artificial flavor. The noodles, salmon, and rice were great, and the sub was excellent. Overall very good, especially compared to other schools.

—Joy Calmes

Waterloo Mudies ★★★★

Mudies is tucked away almost open like in the community centre of the University of Waterloo Village residence. It is instantly recognizable as an array consisting of a wide variety of tastes and diets. Whether you're a vegetarian or someone who is allergic to gluten or trying to eat healthy, or someone who is a fan of the "Mudies" (Mudies is only type, it is an honest effort at Mudies to eat and you may find it).

Alongside the usual assortment of dishes served profaned with the word "veggie," Mudies serves both vegetarian specials every

day. We opted for the veggie calzone. It was chock-full of peppers, mushrooms and onions. However, it still managed to be excessively doughy, and the pizza sauce was nothing to write home about.



WATERLOO: Have sausage, why buy?

Next to the veggie station were dishes that could be more honestly called healthy. You can order yogurt with your choice of cranberry, grapefruit and fresh fruit. We ordered on a pizza with sausage beef and all the (reasonably fresh) toppings that could be crammed in. This could be an ideal way to eat. This could be an ideal way to eat. This could be an ideal way to eat. This could be an ideal way to eat.

Then being Waterloo, home to the biggest Gluten-free diet of Ontario, we figured we'd see if the city's reputation for sausage pizza was an university cafeteria. Yup. The spicy sausage was juicy and cooked right, crisp but not desiccated. You could even see the sausage when you bite into it. Unfortunately, the sausage was served on a bun that was so dry it cut my throat. This is all the more disappointing given that Mudies advertises its in-house bakery.

For the refined palate there was also a lemon chicken dish, sort to mention a tuna casserole topped with whole rippled spaghetti. While most dishes at Mudies are creative and kept to the side, they had chicken

uncovered and on display. Too bad. What might be some point here has been a perfectly good piece of chicken had developed a thick, chewy skin, leaving us wondering exactly what we were consuming. An unfortunate end to a fairly satisfying experience.

—Cassidy Jones

Guelph Prairie Cafe ★★★★

Guelph has a reputation for food, the Credit Union Market Place, for example, has long been seen as a model of what on-campus meals should be: fresh, healthy, hearty. But I wondered if Guelph's best is indeed, how best is Guelph's worst? What was a bit at the university, I informally poll students. Where, I ask, is the worst food? They all agreed: "Prairie Cafe."

There is a school in the concrete fortress that is a South Block, where over a 100 students live, most of them from the food server sees how no natural light, the ceiling is low and there's not much room to move around. Not pleasant.

There is a "meat cooked" counter, where only grill, and Pita Pit. The fruit and vegetable selection is basic, and an equivalent stand space is dedicated to (overpriced) bulk food. I order fish and chips, and the lunch special, "Lunch Chunks Casserole." The fish and chips side served on the plate and there's a lot of the fish. The server gives me



GUELPH: No wheat toppings here, but

a full plate of the casserole. It is huge, it can't even get out of it in one sitting. The given me a bit away with 17 for the fish and chips side. However, students pay only \$4.99, and that's a deal.

After getting, we enter the doughnut. What a difference. It is by far the best looking doughnut of my entire life. I've visited. There are huge windows and skylights everywhere. The morning light is perfect, with lots of light. The maple syrup is thick and the lighting is soft. This is definitely the place for relaxing and socializing. We end up staying for an hour and a half.

And the food? It's not perfect. How much better can one fish here? The fish was good, you get it, but it was in a short time, so it was. The fries were horrible, I can make better fries, and I barely know how to boil water. But the casserole was excellent. It was simply one of the best dishes I've had at a cafe.

area. Guelph's worst food was found to be at a nearby university's best. —JC

Manitoba Manitoba Hall ★★★★

Perfection itself has been long envied by those living in residence at the University of Manitoba, so we entered cautiously that thanks to a number of menu enhancements introduced last fall, we were pleasantly surprised.

Dinner was all you could eat. The sandwich and wrap bar offered fresh coleslaw, pepper and pineapple, among other toppings for your wrap or sandwich. There was a choice of lean meats, and the salad bar offered



MANITOBA: Much improved cafeteria

a dozen or so ingredients ranging from your standard carrots and mushrooms to the slightly more exotic chickpeas and kidney beans. Both the cuisine and eating lounge were great and healthy.

The site by was paid for to order, in a bus and other areas. The doors of chicken breast were adequately served, though the space was over crowded, leaving the best of us severely dry and sticky. Sticky.

Manitoba Hall has become better and healthier for students for these little things. I did my best to eat more healthily, and the old Manitoba Hall is still a good place to go. We were on the best of the best, leaving the chicken breast and corned beef. The chicken and corned beef was tasty and delicious, and the food was very good.

The food here is a bit overdone, though not to order. Choice of sides included vegetables (lightly undercooked), potato wedges (hardly fresh), and a lot of other things. The food was not as good as it was. The food was not as good as it was. The food was not as good as it was.



MANITOBA: Much improved cafeteria

the full Ontario menu. But the chicken—perfect chicken—chicken was delicious. The chicken was delicious. The chicken was delicious. The chicken was delicious.

Saskatchewan Marquis Hall Cafeteria ★★★

To pronounce "Marquis" in Marquis Hall at anything like the French way (marquis, ah-hah!) is something nobody is to mark one's foot to remember on campus. Marquis, they say here, isn't a good thing, you know. It's a good thing, the food in the Garry Room, where the nearby residence of Saskatchewan and Qu'Appelle halls, with anything of noble or superior taste. "It's a good food," one student complains, and we found no reason to dispute their judgment, even after this wings brought off plenty of natural light and delicious views of the greyish Garry campus.

But onward and foodward. A serving of the kitchen's garlic pork balls—deep-fried, with more fat than the other and the unattractive bouquet of fatty acid—was a waste. A plate of pasta primavera, swimming in a sad, pasty, pasty sauce with bits of useless carrot and diced broccoli (who knew green stuff could turn so unwholesome?), proved almost inedible. A side salad of orange and carrot of which you could taste but like regular pasta but lacking the sweet.

In the lounge bodega, at last, we found a tasty, generously portioned bowl, with beautiful tomato and beef sauce and a generous amount of chicken. The chicken was delicious. The chicken was delicious. The chicken was delicious. The chicken was delicious.

Yet, just a few doors down from Marquis, in the Arts Building, with a view of the dining room, made like The Revolution building—is one of the university's many buildings, little gatherings of food, social and business, including in the hallway of ultra-thin but good and otherwise not food. Though not on the menu, the food is delicious, tasty, and a much better one. —Stephanie Koller

Calgary The Alberta Room ★★★★

The Alberta Room, with a good-looking menu, may have been a bit of a disappointment, but it was a good thing. The food was good. The food was good. The food was good. The food was good.

LEGEND
★★★★★ Culinary A+
★★★★★ Culinary A
★★★★★ Culinary B
★★★★★ Culinary C
★★★★★ Culinary D
★★★★★ Culinary E
★★★★★ Culinary F
★★★★★ Culinary G
★★★★★ Culinary H
★★★★★ Culinary I
★★★★★ Culinary J
★★★★★ Culinary K
★★★★★ Culinary L
★★★★★ Culinary M
★★★★★ Culinary N
★★★★★ Culinary O
★★★★★ Culinary P
★★★★★ Culinary Q
★★★★★ Culinary R
★★★★★ Culinary S
★★★★★ Culinary T
★★★★★ Culinary U
★★★★★ Culinary V
★★★★★ Culinary W
★★★★★ Culinary X
★★★★★ Culinary Y
★★★★★ Culinary Z

whole jokes. "Oh, it's so sad! I don't know about metaphors," Homer laments. "I wish I'd read that book by the scientist guy." His glabrous reference to Stephen Hawking, the cerebral physicist, draws grins from three laughing Masha's and giggles from seven for many of those students, too. Lucky for them: Dubiel is an exceptional grade.

Dubiel learned his love of molecular problem solving as a gifted mathematics prodigy that did not come from a strict academic system that did not come from girls from the village. The son came from his father, an engineer and, really, a rocket scientist at a military technical school. "My dad was surprised, after coming to Canada in 1981, at the advanced level of public-school math instruction. Part of it is the confidence of people teaching. If you don't think you're good at math yourself, you may not be sufficiently confident to teach it."

Many of those educational casualties end up in Dubiel's classes. Not only does the teach math to future teachers, he helped design FANMe, a research-oriented program populated by students who floundered out of high school math. Passing FAN is a mandatory step to an undergraduate degree at SFU. She defines their dilemma with good humor, an engaging collection of math puzzles, examples of his history, personalities and to uses in daily life, including *The Simpsons*. By starting with an error among problems, and work toward to solution, he believes students are more likely to see the relevance and, yes, beauty of the math.

Nicole Weber and Nicole Engel, both now as teaching assistants, entered Dubiel's course with no relation. Both struggled with math in high school. "She touches the material you are very familiar with," says Weber. "She actually made me love math," says Engel. "She took the time to show me the background, history and the reasoning and context I needed." They're now to realize that math is a skill to be earned, not a gift bestowed on a select few. "Math is a hard but it's not impossible," says Engel. "It takes work."

SOREL FRIEDMAN, English Studies, Université de Montréal
Representing a quick blend of English and a pair of USB key notecards, Friedman estimates her class as a cheerleader and a study pep squad. "I would like to hear a lot of noise," she says. "It's very quiet, and I don't like that. I want it noisy, fast, and with a lot of noise."

If asking for more noise sounds like a strange command, consider the place, the class and the subject. Friedman teaches in English as a second language at Université de Montréal, an institution that is decidedly more Molotov than Shakespeare, and where the

SOREL FRIEDMAN teaching physics from the classroom



GREAT TEACHERS CAN CONTRIBUTE AS MUCH TO AN INSTITUTION'S IMPACT AS GREAT RESEARCHERS

French language is an enduring part of grade 10 students, predominantly francophone, but from Quebec, France, Africa and elsewhere. "It's the first time I've spoken English in an English class," says 21-year-old communication student Marie-Pier Boudreau. "I was shy, but today if you don't speak English you're in big trouble."

There are few places at the university outside Friedman's classroom where her students can truly converse in English. Her courses are three hours of exposure therapy, where students are encouraged to drop

their inhibitions and communicate as loudly and unashamedly as possible, as long as it is in English. It's a style developed over 25 years at the university, and which has generated accolades from Canadian students. "I learned more in Ms. Friedman's class over nine weeks than I did in all my time at CEGEP," says 21-year-old communications major Mahdi Davari.

Friedman's teaching style is a jumble of new and old technology: she uses Web-based content and interactive class time to CMC and NMC podcast Web pages, as well as to Friedman's own online grading and writing resource page dubbed "Mylanguage". At the same time, her handwritten grammar assignments on lined paper, which are corrected with Friedman's colorful red pen.

Lectures are infrequent. As the term goes on, students are forced to speak in ever larger groups to confront their insecurities in a comfortable setting. "The students at Université de Montréal do not live in English," Friedman explains. "For them English is a foreign language, not a second language in the sense that they might have to use it at the store or at the bank, because they don't."

Success is measurable by the adherence to her English only mandate. In this province, one of the largest nonpays in the country, no one is speaking French.

P. K. CHARI RANGACHARI, Department of Medicine, McMaster University

Throughout his class, disheveled and carefree, Chari Rangachari has noted against the idea of universities as "teaching shops," where students are the sole criteria for success and where advanced education rarely narrow specialization rather than focusing on a basket of interests. "I love to see a pretty train script. I want the 3 places and the 3 minutes

so when a kid is bored, he tells me he is bored," he says. "We judge by this transcript, which is, as anthropologists say, a thin description."

Much of his nation, rebellious intellect seems rooted in childhood experience in New Delhi. Formerly, he is a coach the performance to employ the teaching and he experienced at the hands of the Irish Christian brothers at his school. While they had an impact on his education, it was often from the business end of a cane. Still, he caught their passion for history and literature. "I know of John Keats by heart," he says. "Even now I can probably remember 90 per cent of it." The brothers were his cultural axis about science, which they taught by

(creation) in medicine and a teacher in the human health sciences and various programs. Under his tutelage, a discussion on ecology called students through the words of Agnès Christy, a meditation on the Padma, or an introduction to the quiet runs of Oscar Wilde.

"What I really hope I do with my students is open their eyes to a few glimpses of all the beauty that is there," he says. "Now, whether they find it later on in life or not, but if I don't do it I'm wasting my time."

ONE OF THIS YEAR'S 3M'S HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS 'MISTER CHEMICAL EDUCATOR' OF THE WORLD



P. K. CHARI RANGACHARI: I love to see a pretty transcript. I want the A's and the C's.

rate. Regard the wrong answer, "you got whacked." It didn't quash his curious nature. "I discovered science wasn't really as boring as my teachers made it out to be." The result was a medical degree, and a PhD in pharmacology.

He came to McMaster in 1981 as a medical researcher, only to be inspired by the potential of the group inquiry and problem-based teaching then taking hold in the faculty. McMaster encouraged Rangachari to reinvent across the disciplines. After, he as professor

PETER MAHAFFY, Department of Chemistry, The King's University College

With typical enigmatic wit, Peter Mahaffy headed up the U.S. & Mac was one of the lead scientists in a global lab effort to lower the United Nations declare 2002 the International Year of Chemistry. He soon the offer as an opportunity to make the profile of chemistry at a time when the planet is being asked to never before by human intervention. The effort also illustrates how Mahaffy's scope

reaches far beyond the walls, Christian lives are university in Edmonton where he has taught since 1981. "I met most of our other Canadian chemical educators who had become as well known and respected internationally," says Hank Bessner, chair of King's natural sciences division. "It has been described as 'Mister Chemical Educator' of the world."

Mahaffy grew up in Errol, in east Africa, where his father worked for a Presbyterian mission. It shaped his global view as surely as his commitment to teaching was shaped by his mentors, such as his mother, Adeline, who at 90 had teaching special needs children at a small Texas school.

Teaching at a liberal arts school has its own challenges. He works with undergraduate science majors, but also those with an aversion to the subject. "My goal isn't to turn them into chemists," he says. "There are fundamentally important things about the world of molecules that everyone needs to know and many are fearful of entering that world." For them he has created Concepts of Chemistry, in which they first express the world of molecules through art, poetry or music before getting into the science and math behind the chemistry of their homes and environments. Seeing the science is another key to understanding. Mahaffy co-directs the King's Centre for Visualization in Science, which creates computer-based models of complex fields, molecular vibrations or aspects of climate change. "It's interesting to help students discover that world, which is foreign to some and scary to all of them," he says.

Mahaffy's nomination for a 3M fellowship included letters of support from Nobel laureates Rolf Hoffmann, from Oxford's Peter Atkins, author of the world's bestselling chemistry text, and, thus, from an English major and former student: "Dr. Mahaffy did not dumb down chemistry for chemistry students. Instead he brought the science that seemed to separate the sun from the oceans," he said. "He noted the periodic table is every day life." ■

THIS YEAR'S BEST

In 1998, to recognize the importance of university teaching, the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and 3M Canada created the 3M Teaching Fellowship. Up to 10 university faculty members are recognized each year for their exceptional contributions to teaching and learning. Since 2006, Macdonald has proudly been the program's main sponsor.



This year's 3M Teaching Fellows, left to right: James Blane, Department of Chemistry & Science, University of Western Ontario, Mississauga; David Friedman, Department of Mathematics, Simon Fraser University, Delta; Peter Mahaffy, Department of Chemistry, The King's University College; P. K. Chari Rangachari, Department of Medicine, McMaster University; Robert Lipp, Department of English, Mount Allison University; Dr. Lucifora, School of Human Kinetics and Recreation, Memorial University of Newfoundland.



3M Teaching Fellows (continued), left to right: P. K. Chari Rangachari, Department of Medicine, McMaster University; Mercedes Beaudry-Grants, Department of Languages and Literature, Wilfrid Laurier University; Peter Mahaffy, Department of Chemistry, The King's University College; Sorin Friedman, Department of Education, University of Montreal; Robert Lipp, Department of English, Mount Allison University; Dr. Lucifora, School of Human Kinetics and Recreation, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

THE BEST MEDICINE THAT YOU CAN'T HAVE

Why breakthroughs in genetic testing don't help actual patients

BY CATHY COBLE • For millions of people who rely on a daily dose of the blood thinner warfarin to prevent blood clots, staying healthy is a precarious balancing act. Too much of the drug may cause excessive bleeding. Too little can lead to a heart attack or stroke. Even eating such foods as garlic, green berry, leafy greens or ginger can affect the way the medicine works and provoke a bad reaction. Most people wind up in the emergency room because of warfarin than almost any other drug, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

So it came as good news when, last August, the FDA updated its prescribing information for warfarin. Now, the label recommends that doctors use genetic testing to determine an appropriate dosage for patients. That's because a genetic reaction depends on a patient's version of two genes, CYP2C9 and VKORC1. (Health Canada labels for warfarin highlight how CYP2C9 may affect dosage, but don't yet include information about VKORC1.) "[This] is one step in our commitment to personalized medicine," said Dr. Andrew C. von Hidenbrand, the FDA center director, at the time. The right answer, he reasoned, would "give us medical advice in the right dose for the right patient."

Warfarin (brand name Coumadin) is just one example of how personalized medicine—the use of genetic tests to determine an individual's risk level for disease, and the most appropriate treatment—is the new frontier in health care. Every day, it seems, there are reports of discoveries a scientist in the U.S. or Europe may lead to Longevity's disease. A test examining five activity of 21 genes may determine if a woman should receive chemotherapy for breast cancer. Drugs known as TKIs are far less toxic for cancer patients with a mutation in the gene EGFR. It's the most exciting area of medicine," says Dr. Albert Chodsky, president of the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists (CCMG), and professor of genetics at the University of Manitoba. "It impacts every part of life."

As yet, for most Canadians, information about and access to genetic tests and targeted



therapy is limited. (The warfarin genetic test alone that is not accessible.) Of the thousands of genetic tests available in the world, "as many as a dozen will often never be tested," says Chodsky, whose Winnipeg center provides only "about a hundred." That's partly due to a severe shortage of geneticists to administer tests and analyze risk factors. It's also because of a lack of money. "[Demand for] testing has gone up about 20 per cent a year for 15



CANADA HAS 245 MEDICAL GENETICISTS, COMPARED TO 450 PLASTIC SURGEONS

years," says Dr. Peter Ray, head of molecular genetics at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children and a professor at the University of Toronto, at his expense. "The funding for testing has gone up about four or five per cent a year." So it's no surprise why direct for-

some tests can be as long as half a decade. And the deficiency isn't unique to Canada. "The business," reads a report in the *National Business Review* last October, "is that progress in making the promise of personalized medicine has been slowed unevenly." The numbers characterize the gap between science and medical practice as "astronomically large." That statement was echoed in a Science article



from last September observing that "emerging technologies have only had marginal impact on health care to date."

Even if demand for personalized medicine is planned where it is today, Canada wouldn't have enough geneticists. There are about 245 who are members of the CCMG, according to Chodsky. Less than half of them are clinical or medical geneticists—that is, doctors trained to administer tests and deal with patients. The other half are laboratory geneticists, who do analysis and conduct research. (By comparison, there are 450 plastic surgeons in Canada.) "We are having a hard time fulfilling that mission need," because each patient may take several hours, says Dr. Mitchell Jones, a member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons (RCPS), a medical genetics specialty committee, and a professor at the University of Calgary. "That's the overall time bottleneck. The bigger thing than we're thinking about is when it comes to genetic tests for everyone." That couldn't be done now for lack of resources and technology, he says.

That's a shortage of genetic connections too—only about 100 nationwide. They work with clinical geneticists, and focus on the emotional and psychological needs of patients, says Jennifer Fitzpatrick, director of the gen-

etics counselling program at McGill University in Montreal, and a past president of the Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors (CAGC). "There's a strange paradox," she observes, "that you have more advances in research but there aren't quite enough numbers of health professionals for patients."

Partly to blame for the shortage are Canadian gene ethics, which "have been" harsh

particular disorder. The warfarin partly reflects how laborious genetic testing is, says Fitzpatrick. But improvements must be made, because the demand for it will grow as the genetic component of more diseases are discovered, and as people with these conditions live longer and need ongoing care, predicts the CAGC.

The similar genetic testing shortage and



DR. PETER RAY (far left): Warfarin tests can be free years. Some patients just give up.

growing demand for tests and drugs added to the burden of already overworked doctors. "Diagnosing a family history [of] the brand and burden of family medicine," says Dr. Janet Carroll of the University of Toronto medical center at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital, and a professor at the University of Toronto, but some GPs "don't have the tools or the time to explore predisposition," says Timothy Chodsky, professor and research director of the Health Law Institute at the University of Alberta. "It's one of the fastest-growing areas of medicine, and the knowledge base is changing rapidly," adds Ray. "There's a huge need for improved education" for family physicians.

And doctors may be reluctant to take on this additional work without some compensation, says Marc Appel, an author of the

Harvard report and president of diagnostic testing giant Genzyme Genetics, based in Cambridge, Mass. The says physicians are rewarded "for action, activity, for doing a surgery, for prescribing a drug. There is very little or no reward for spending an extra half-hour to diagnose a patient, or to suggest a test because that says one drug should be used over another," Appel continues. "There's no financial incentive." In Canada, for example, the money for genetic testing goes to the lab rather than to the physician, says Fitzpatrick.

Even when patients do get tested for a genetic condition, usually there is no targeted medicine or therapy for them. "That's our big troubling block: we can identify someone changes in DNA that will lead to disease, but [then] we grind to a halt," says Fitzpatrick. The science, adds Appel, has given a good of the drug development. That's partly because research and approval takes years. Companies are also reluctant to invest in drugs perceived to be expensive to produce and marketable to only a fraction of people. "You may need more [money] early to understand the difference between populations," says Appel. But the FDA has recognized that highly specific drugs may underpin shorter clinical trials than "black-box" ones. And, the odds, targeted drugs need to be priced higher because they don't have side effects.

Until genetic tests and tailored treatments are available to everyone who wants them, though, patients may prefer customers for new companies offering genetic mapping. One company in Ireland called 23andMe Genetics is set to offer a personal genome service next for dozens of common diseases, physical characteristics and ancestry. In the U.S., there is a website, founded by Google, and Navigenics, which instantly reports a user and other service—such as away 100,000 and sales, and to return their genetic profile is posted online (password required).

Many in the medical community are skeptical of such commercial enterprises. But for patients desperate for information, and unable to access answers within the public system, these offers are their only option. "Given the downward geneticists, how can we block that?" asks Fitzpatrick. "That's not ethical either." ■

TONICS

PROG JUICE TONIC PROMISES GREAT RESULTS

A publicist for Canada's various disorders is warning: Prog Juice. Written in public markets are selling a combination of white-bean broth, new skin vitamins and other ingredients. They're put in a blender along with a drop. Users say it's the real thing: more "Tonic" cellular ingredients, and the drink has become a popular morning refreshment. Should you find yourself out of breath, the "Prog Juice" is also said to work on asthma and bronchitis.

What will your reason be?



Toyota hybrid vehicles deliver many benefits

Clean Air

Toyota's hybrid vehicles emit up to 70% fewer smog-forming emissions, such as NO_x and other airborne pollutants, than the average conventional gasoline vehicle.*

At the same time, with the assistance of its electric motor, Toyota hybrid vehicles require less fuel, which naturally means reduced CO₂ (carbon dioxide) emissions, one of the causes of global warming.

Reduced 3,500,000 tonnes of CO₂ over 10 years*

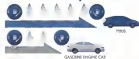
Based on North American fleet for 2003-2012 model years.



Fuel Efficiency

Toyota hybrid vehicles deliver superior fuel efficiency and consequently afford lower running costs in comparison with other gasoline-driven vehicles of the same class. Due to its efficient use of gasoline, the Prius can run twice as far on the same amount under same driving conditions.

Prius can drive nearly twice as far



The synergy of engine and electric motor power; regenerate energy under deceleration

Toyota hybrid system: Intelligent and powerful

To date, different types of hybrid systems have been developed. One system uses its gasoline engine to turn a generator to produce electricity, which is used by an electric motor to drive the vehicle. In another, the system runs primarily on a gasoline engine and uses its electric motor only to assist acceleration. At Toyota, the advantages provided by both of those systems were combined in developing a unique hybrid system, and released the world's first mass-produced hybrid vehicle.

By 2003, further refinements to the system resulted in development of the Hybrid Synergy Drive, delivering overwhelming environmental performance and—at the same time—providing astounding driving excitement. With the Hybrid Synergy Drive, Toyota defied the then common notion that eco vehicles leave much to be desired in the driving performance department.

The powerful electric motor, developed and manufactured



in-house, and an intelligent control system developed through 10 years of long market experience and accumulated know-how, are the keys to this system. The more powerful electric motors decrease the load on the gasoline engine and thereby improve fuel efficiency compared to Toyota's first generation hybrid system. Toyota hybrid vehicles can start moving using only the electric motor.

In addition, a characteristic of an electric motor is to instantaneously provide powerful torque when electric current is passed, which results in a smooth and powerful starting start. The addition of an intelligent and precise control system help make optimal control of the gasoline engine and electric motor possible to deliver maximum performance and efficiency and to help the gasoline engine run in its most efficient rpm range. Should this result in producing surplus power, the surplus is used to turn a generator to recharge the battery, thereby storing the surplus energy in the battery for later use. This is just one of the benefits of Toyota's Hybrid Synergy Drive.



©2003 Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.

Power

An electric motor responds instantaneously. Toyota's hybrid system incorporates a powerful electric motor to help deliver exceptionally responsive and smooth acceleration. It delivers maximum torque from rest and requires no shifting of gears. For instance, from 0-100km/h, a 1.5 L Prius can produce the same acceleration as compared to a 2.0 L gasoline engine vehicle.

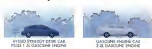
0-100km/h in 10.9 seconds



Quietness

The system provides quiet operation when running only on the electric motor when starting from rest and in the low speed range, as well as during deceleration and coming to rest.

Can run only on the electric motor



To find out more, visit: www.HybridSynergyDrive.com



1 million Toyota hybrid drivers have opened up to a world of fresher air. Reduced 3.5 million tonnes of CO₂*

The mission for eco vehicles: Expand your contribution to the Earth

An eco vehicle delivers astounding environmental performance and if enough people drive them, this can expect to make significant contribution towards mitigating environmental and energy issues. By building impressive vehicles for more people, not only would they deliver outstanding environmental performance but they also serve the owner the fun of driving, unusual expectation of automobiles and convenience. They must also be compatible with the society of the time.

Just before the turn of the 21st century, Toyota decided to build a vehicle that can run on half the amount of fuel than conventional vehicles would need and contribute towards lessening environmental impact throughout the world.

One solution Toyota came up with was to develop Prius: the world's first mass-produced hybrid vehicle. Ten years later, the

total number of Toyota's hybrid vehicles owned throughout the world has exceeded the 1 million milestone and Toyota hybrid vehicles continue to expand its spread on a global scale.

Contribution to environmental conservation

Having put 1 million Toyota hybrid vehicles on the road has helped reduce about 3.5 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions*. In terms of volume, this represents about 1.786 billion ml, which is equivalent to about 714 000 units of 50cm swimming pools. At a time when effects of global warming are getting serious and drawing more attention, our efforts to mitigate the issues have resulted in such a concrete figure.

Fuel for Toyota hybrid system will not be limited to gasoline. The system has a potential to be adapted to run with hydrogen fuel cell, biofuel or clean diesel, whenever it is socially optimal at the time, and maximize efficiency. The possibilities for Toyota hybrid system, the Hybrid Synergy Drive, continue to expand.



HYBRID SYNERGY DRIVE

Developing hybrid vehicles

Making the key components in-house

At Toyota, all the key components for the hybrid system, including the electronic components, are made in-house. This is a unique Toyota approach in manufacturing hybrid vehicles.

The approach allows for a quick turnaround in implementing higher Toyota standards for quality to its hybrid vehicles. Toyota engineers have a firm grasp on the intricate inter-relationships among the various components, thereby allowing them to pay attention to the finest of details. This contributes to the great confidence Toyota has in the reliability of our products.

Chip development; stepping inside the atomic world

When developing the first generation Prius, electronic chips then available on the market did not allow Toyota to build hybrid vehicles with the necessary level of operability. The development team at Toyota waded into the atomic world and succeeded in developing electronic chips that defied conventional wisdom of the time.

This relentless commitment and devotion to quality helped make it possible for Toyota to develop the first ever mass-produced hybrid vehicle in the world.



Diagram of the High-4-Speed Drive System (HSD)

* Calculations on reduction of CO₂ emissions

The total sum of the amount of CO₂ emissions of all CO₂ emissions of 1000 Toyota hybrid vehicles sold during the 10 years and that of all gasoline engine vehicles of the same class would amount to the world's average reduction through calculation. The amount of CO₂ emissions of 1000 Toyota hybrid vehicles is 1.786 billion ml, which is equivalent to about 714 000 units of 50cm swimming pools. At a time when effects of global warming are getting serious and drawing more attention, our efforts to mitigate the issues have resulted in such a concrete figure.

gasoline vehicles, conventional internal combustion engine (ICE) emissions of 1000 Toyota hybrid vehicles is 1.786 billion ml, which is equivalent to about 714 000 units of 50cm swimming pools. At a time when effects of global warming are getting serious and drawing more attention, our efforts to mitigate the issues have resulted in such a concrete figure.

How it works

Toyota's hybrid system controls and carefully manages the use of its gasoline engine and electric motor according to driving conditions, delivering a powerful yet quiet performance.





ROGER CLEMENS: As a Yankee, with former trainer and friend Brian McNamee (right)

'ROID MADNESS

The line between legal and banned substances is now meaningless

BY MICHAEL TRISODIANT • Let's be clear about something: If Roger Clemens used anabolic steroids, he broke the rules. End of discussion. The common assumption—that the muscle-building drug was not banned until 2003, after he allegedly used it to size up Yankee star Major League Baseball outfielder steroids in 1991, and although it took 12 more years for the players' union to finally agree to monitor drug tests, the common assumption has always had the players as primary cheaters. Especially if, say, a former major leaguer admits to a sworn affidavit that he jammed needles into a certain pitcher's butt.

To defend Clemens all you want. Maybe Brian McNamee is a liar. Maybe he didn't supply his one-time friend with steroids and human growth hormone (HGH) more than a dozen times. Heck, maybe Clemens really did pinch into his mid-40s because of rigid on workouts and a nasty split finger he'd hit but whenever you believe (or want to believe), don't get lost in loopholes that don't exist. If the Rocket took "roids, he's a cheater—whether it was 1991 or 1993 or 2004. Same goes for HGH. Although it wasn't banned by name until 2005, the league's drug policy has long prohibited the use of behind-the-counter made without a prescription. And since HGH is only approved in strict AIDS patients and children with growth hormone deficiencies, no ballpark can possibly produce a genuine doctor's note.



draw the line? Bahfrke asks. "It's murky territory."

So murky, in fact, that some in the medical community are starting to speak the walkback side—that perhaps steroids aren't "banned after all." The rules are wildly overinflated, they say, and a "Reiter Medians" manual, drawn by medical giant and long-pole-dogging business, has looked up any reasonable debate. "Medically speaking, the rules are incoherent and hypocritical," says Dr. Norman Fost, a pediatrician and director of medical ethics at the

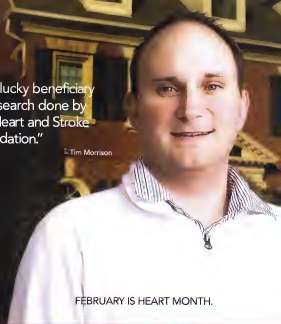
No, Roger's Hall of Fame reputation will not be rescued by a technicality (or the fact that he doesn't have "medical care" growing out of his backside, as he told Mike Wallace). When he settles in front of a U.S. congressional committee next week, his only chance at redemption is to prove that the other guy is the fraud. He must overturn the politicians, and, in, that his 24-year career—156 wins, seven Cy Young Awards—really was done on natural.

Rozers, of course, for all these legal shenanigans he pumped into his body because those are few Vitamin B-12. Lidozine. Carnation. And, oh yes, Vaso, which Clemens "popped like stories" to mask his aches and pains. But, none of those drugs can transform a skinny whelp into Arnold Schwarzenegger. And some against the rules of the game. But Clemens' expected defense—that he took everything but steroids and HGH—is hardly inspiring. If anything, it proves that some of these Cy Youngers really do believe in his medicine cabinet. Steroids or not, he spent his career at the very edge of that fine pharmacological line that separates "gaining an advantage" from full-blown cheating.

"It's certainly confusing, that line between what we say is okay, and what we say isn't okay," says Michael Bahfrke, a statistics researcher at Penn State University. Stay away from "roids, the rules state, but go ahead and load up on creatine. Can't bend your elbow? Take a shot of this and you'll be throwing by tomorrow. And don't forget to knock back a couple of Red Bulls before you take the field. It'll give you wings! "Where exactly do you

"I'm a lucky beneficiary of research done by the Heart and Stroke Foundation."

—Tim Morrison



FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH.

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University of Wisconsin. "We tolerate many other things that enhance performance, and we allow athletes to do things that are much more risky than taking steroids."

Just isn't suggesting that you order some Steroids for your 10-year-old son. Children should be meeting steroids only from their parents. What doctors have, though, is that notion that any consuming child who reaches their is dosed. "It's an interesting distinction from some ethical issues in sports, like the physical state of persons in disability or the criminal behavior of elite athletes," just says. "Whether than talking about real issues—like alcohol and chewing tobacco, things that really do cause harm—we pretend like we can about the health and safety of athletes by focusing on these two or three drugs that really cause very little harm."

a number of adverse and even fatal effects, the incidence of serious effects has far less been extremely low," they wrote.

For decades, steroids have been prescribed for legitimate therapeutic reasons, from stimulating bone growth in treating children with growth disorders, to inducing energy. That alone, Youla says, proves that the drugs can be used safely—transformation. But because there has never been a single study that measures the long-term side effects, it's impossible to know where that boundary is. Are some people reacting way too much? If they cut back, would the dangers diminish? Adding to the confusion is the fact that most of the well-publicized horror stories don't involve pure steroids, but black-market vials produced in Tijuana and sold online. Police have seized countless knock-off concoctions that were

strongly drink is now banned after an 18-year-old student drowned. And properly dead. And then there's cortisone, the anti-inflammation wonder drug that has long been a mainstay of many athletes. It is known to trigger depression and irregular heartbeats, all while still doing away at your joints. "There are athletes who have serious problems of depression, impacting confidence and playing with pain," First says. "Good gave us pain for a reason. It's a signal to stop doing what you're doing."

Which begs the question: If taking steroids to be more honest man violates the spirit of the game, doesn't cortisone? For some reason, putting a shot into a joint to allow you to play seems acceptable," says Lawrence Sport, a nutritional sciences professor at the University of Guelph. "Whereas, say, taking amphetamines is unacceptable." Well, sort of. Baseball

THE SIDE EFFECTS AREN'T LETHAL, IN MOST CASES, THEY'RE REVERSIBLE.



CLEMENS MEETS THE PRESS Have journalists exaggerated the adverse effects of steroids?

That might be stretching it a bit. But consider the most common side effects: severe acne, baldness, shrinking testicles, and breast development in men. Supplement? No. But not lethal, either. And in most cases, reversible. "Journalists have exaggerated the adverse effects, there is no doubt about that," says Dr. Charles Barden, an epidemiologist who has written four books about steroids. "Can you harm yourself with them? Yes, I believe you can. They are two powerful hormones. But I would say that about virtually anything, from Aspirin to cold medications to pacemakers. There is no harmless drug."

Three years ago, Youla and Babcock co-authored a research paper for the U.S. President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. They noted that more than one million Americans have tried steroids at least once, and that some athletes have linked steroid use to liver deterioration, increased aggressiveness, and reproductive problems. Their conclusion, however, was not the stuff of headlines: "Although anabolic steroid use has been associated (mainly through case reports) with

liver and kidney and heart with everything from liver cancer to stroke. "A lot of people are saying, 'Can you take small amounts of anabolic steroids and still be okay?'" Babcock says. "I think in a lot of cases you can. But when you start to abuse it and mix it with other substances, then the answer is different."

Rogers' own father, Pat, believes that even if the genetic stuff is a dead end, it's certainly not the only hazardous substance in the clubhouse. Some of the most common reasons for athletes' injuries have equally serious effects. These things: pills that Clemens loved to crush were yanked off the shelf and from their causes heart attacks and strokes in France and Denmark, Ted Ball

beamed steroids, unless a player can prove he suffers from attention deficit disorder. At last count, 393 Major League—four full seasons' worth—have been diagnosed with ADD and carry a prescription for amphetamines. "It's a big sports fan," says Youla, laughing at the double standard. "I just happened to pull the curtain back long ago, and I know what the steroid is doing. They're per se, per se, per se, clear, elite sport and that's not that there's always a few bad apples in the barrel. That's bull. There are only a few good apples and they don't rot."

Worst case would be steroids, then, if baseball isn't banned all the self-improvement rhetoric. Clemens will cheer, and no matter how hard the league tries, taking the sport of steroids and drugs will not magically recreate the glory days of Babe Ruth. Yes, the Babe didn't play. He also didn't drink Gatorade. Or pretzel sticks, or Bittles, or any other muscle mass found at your local supermarket. That's hard to imagine that Ruth even drank water that didn't come with hops and barley.

But the compassion simply doesn't work. Being an athlete in the 21st century involves so much more than God-given talent. And as long as there is a medicine in the training room and millions of dollars in the contracts, the final score will always depend, at least a little, on how far the next Roger Clemens is willing to stretch his conscience. And, of course, whether his strength and conditioning coach can keep a secret. ■



YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE BALL. Leo LaPorte, 32, suffers from a rare, visual disorder that has left him legally blind. Nevertheless, he still plays golf—his lifelong passion—although he needs help finding his balls and lining up his shots. But that didn't stop LaPorte from winning a hole-in-one on a 110-yard, par-3 green recently in Clearwater, Fla. "It was my first hole-in-one, and I never saw it," he says. "I was just trying to put the ball on the green."

'THERE MIGHT BE A TOGA PARTY BECAUSE DON'T HAVE ANY NICE CLOTHES WITH ME, AND WHEN IN DOUBT, WEAR A SHEET'—DOWNHILL SKIINCHAMP **EMILY BRYDON** ON HER ITALIAN VICTORY PARTY

DANIEL BOUTON HIGH FINANCE AND LOWLY OUTSIDERS

It's hard to imagine this times could get much worse for French financial giant Société Générale, which with a \$72-billion rescue made scandal on top of a \$3 billion subprime mortgage loss. But somehow, the bank's chairman **Daniel Bouton** is keeping his job, after the Paris bank's board rejected his resignation. For some it sounds as if Bouton is a powerful figure, while the world focuses on a junior broker, **Jérôme Kerviel**, who complained his colleagues perceived him to be like a lonely outsider. Kerviel has been charged with fraud and is being held in secret location. The disciplinary has touched a nerve. This week, the bank's largest shareholder group—its own employees—filed suit, demanding transparency and accountability in the executive ranks. What does a member of the elite have to do to get fired in France?



EMILY BRYDON A GOLDEN FINISH AND NEWFOUND CONFIDENCE

After blurring down Swiss-G course in St. Moritz, Switzerland, at 115 km/h to nab her first-ever World Cup win, Canadian downhill skier **Emily Brydon** contemplated how she'll celebrate her gold medal. "There might be a toga party involved because I don't have any nice clothes with me, and when in doubt, wear a sheet." Toga or no toga, the locals are all here. The *Finest 8 C.* name, 13, has struggled for this win, cutting through two loose turnings, a string of disappointing finishes, and a shaky confidence that made her consider retirement "before this I can't admit." Now, with the monkey off her back, Brydon has returned Vancouver Olympic ambitions—and the respect of her competition. "There was no beating kindy," said third-place finisher Austrian Renate Gotsch. "We will have to watch on video exactly what she did... because it's beyond understanding."



KATHLEEN TURNER ARE THREE AWARDS FOR DINING THE DEBT?

One of the privileges of celebrity status: when your career is flagging, you will be able to publicly torpedo your enemies in a tell-all memoir. This month it's **Kathleen Turner's** chance to make the rub. In her new book, *Sand, Blood & Rust*, she recalls her breakdown through racism. Her first with much regret. The first scene she did was a full-frontal nude that with co-star **William Hurt**, a man she describes as a "tense, substance-abusing womanizer." She claims that while *Elting Prince's* *Honor*, **Jack Nicholson** talked her out of it. It's a controversial scene set with a bad back, and recalls her producer's offer to let her Douglas offering her lead to *Remaking the Stone* when *Debra Winger* won the down by taking him. **Burt Reynolds**, she says, is a "nasty character," and **Nicolas Cage** is a drunk who she thinks was once arrested for striking a child. **Scandalous.**



SAMAK SUNDARAVEJ POLITICS AND THAI FOOD ARE A SPICY COMBO

Not long after being sworn in as prime minister of Thailand, celebrity chef **Samak Sundaravej** made his first policy announcement: to return his popular cooking show, *Tasting Great Things*, to the air. The show—which combines Thai cooking with fiery political rants by its hosts—was eventually dropped after the government fell in a multi-party coalition in 2008. While Samak's appointment after recent elections represents the country's return to democratic rule, "the constitution does not restrict a prime minister from talking about food," the 72-year-old says. The anti-rice Bangkok government is a divisive issue, making no secret of his dislike for its ousted prime minister **Thaksin Shinawatra**, who will face corruption charges if he returns from self-imposed exile. All this has observers predicting a spicy period in Thailand. But Samak seems determined to banter up the public—he recently retorted journalists over for a home-cooked meal, dodging political questions in favor of snappy rapier.



GRACE SARINZ-LOPEZ THE SHIT TON HITS THE PAW

The route from any hall to the doghouse took only a few short months for **Grace Sarinz-Lopez**. She was mayor of the northern town of *Alto*, home to a pet-sitting industry supply business. It was also home to **Puddles**, a Shih Tzu dog owned by Sarinz-Lopez's neighbors. Last summer, the mayor agreed to watch over Puddles while **Rudy Gutierrez** and **Shelly Covatta** went on holiday. But while they were away, Sarinz-Lopez says, their half-sister **Puddles** had died. Then, three months later, the Shih Tzu was spotted at a near-by grooming salon. The mayor insisted it was "Puddles" on her own dog. But Gutierrez and Covatta knew Puddles from their own lives. They alerted police, who had found chains. Last week, the mayor finally faced up. Puddles went back to his owners, and the mayor resigned. "I can tell you that I did at the time what I thought was best for Puddles," Sarinz-Lopez told reporters, "and what I felt was right in my heart."



JIM SHAW A CABLE TV LEADER TURNS OUT THE CIRC

It's not just for Canadian TV producers. In addition to continuing his work as *Left-Right* on the *Pravie* and *Corner Gas*, new drama series in *The Game*, *My Dad's the Teacher* are drawing big audiences. And some shows are being sold into the U.S., thanks to the prolonged *Holly* wood writers' strike. But **Jim Shaw**, CEO of western cable giant **Shaw Communications Inc.**, is boycotting CRTC hearings into the Canadian Television Fund, which receives \$10 million from cable and satellite subscribers to distribute to producers who make Canadian shows. The hearings were called in the fall after Shaw accused the fund of squandering its money and paying inadequate financial reports. Shaw says he's tired of collecting fees from his customers that go in a show that "nobody watches." He would have gone to the hearings to make his point, but the cable entrepreneur was invited to a boycott when the CRTC announced its decision. **Kenneth van Pelt**, a former CRTC board member, wouldn't be attending. "I'm not going to waste my time with this," Shaw said. "If he can't make the time, why should I?"

SPICE GIRLS BURNING AND HAD KID

"Family and personal issues" were the reason given when the Spice Girls announced last week they were cutting short their reunion tour, cancelling dates in Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Beijing, and Sydney. But there have also been rumors of backstage feuds. One British wood writer's strike. But **Jim Shaw**, CEO of western cable giant **Shaw Communications Inc.**, is boycotting CRTC hearings into the Canadian Television Fund, which receives \$10 million from cable and satellite subscribers to distribute to producers who make Canadian shows. The hearings were called in the fall after Shaw accused the fund of squandering its money and paying inadequate financial reports. Shaw says he's tired of collecting fees from his customers that go in a show that "nobody watches." He would have gone to the hearings to make his point, but the cable entrepreneur was invited to a boycott when the CRTC announced its decision. **Kenneth van Pelt**, a former CRTC board member, wouldn't be attending. "I'm not going to waste my time with this," Shaw said. "If he can't make the time, why should I?"

KIRA PLASTINA FROM BRAZZI TO TEEN FASHION QUEEN

What got fashionistas talking about **Kira Plastinina's** show at *Kerr's* fashion week wasn't her fiery dance or her leopard-print bra: her age. *Plastinina* is 15 years old and a member of the so-called "brunzi generation"—the phenomenon of Russia's rich oligarchs who can't seem to fall in love. Last year, her father, a Russian tycoon, invested an estimated \$100 million in her fashion venture, which went to be the *Slavic* version of *H&M*. She's got at least 10 shops selling *Slavic* fashion forward clothes in Moscow. Now she's the designer for a Russian reality-TV show *Star Factory*, and she's even gotten into the world of adult film. *Plastinina* is still a teen, going to high school, but her father's influence has put her at her design studio. **Paris Hilton**, who reportedly paid \$100 million to watch a carnival show in Moscow, is the *Slavic* version of *H&M*. *Plastinina's* next move: her own brand. *Plastinina's* next move: her own brand. *Plastinina's* next move: her own brand.



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FRYING ONIONS IN NEW YORK

The idiosyncratic Feist tries to stay 'super calm' in the storm of fame BY AARON WHERRY

music

She is 45 minutes late, but when she arrives in with a smile and an apology, all is forgiven.

Three camera crews—one each from Canada's major television networks—have spread themselves out around this New York City theatre. Linda Purl, an agent to participate in the massive New York Times Arts & Leisure Week, approaches each in the parlour and orders: "Hi, I'm Linda, nice to meet you." She sits down, her style fiddler with her bangs, and the questions begin. How do you feel about the Grammy? How are you doing in it? What's the most surreal thing that's happened to you? Have you thought about an acceptance speech? What are you going to wear? At the end of the first interview, the cameramen ask for an autograph for the 15-year-old daughter. Emboldened by this unbroken request, the second guy asks: The daughter might have one too.

"I don't have any income in owning that crazy, bubble gum sphere," she had said earlier in this glo TV interview. "I see the bubble gum too. That's meant to be bubble gum, sure. But it's not something I've managed to." But this is fine. Or at least a moderate amount of it. From low, fat, sweetening and generally unappealing. Except maybe in the microphone that fall out of Linda Feist as if by accident. "What success is—and I've had plenty of time to think about this—is if you've done exactly what you were to be doing and then somehow circumstances allow you to put your hands on each other's and here it is your own success that made the thing you're doing," she explains. "The reality starts to

NOMINATED for four Grammys, Feist will also perform at the awards later this month



build the Lego blocks. So when you have something acute and, it's like it's instantly your own. It doesn't feel monumental. It just feels like you've clipped away and whined yourself something that looks like you."

Here is the classic story. Only with half a dozen fragments that, even in Feist's daily explanation, it's a mess. She was the last singer in a Calgary punk band. She decided her vocal chords and moved to Toronto, casually working with a happy diggy power-pop band (By Divine Right) and an electro-rock rapper (Powder). She made a solo record (Monarch) that she now dismisses, moved to Paris, collaborated with some friends on an indie-rock supergroup (Broken Social

Scenes), recorded a few private demos (in the back ground of her, a Toronto street can be heard rolling past) and, almost instantaneously, put together 2004's *Let It Be*, an album that, if nothing else, made it possible to believe Linda Feist, now 31, would one day be crowned Queen.

Acclaimed, she was now unwittingly replacing a radio-head lyric, can be a bit ugly. "I just never was an ambition person. My ambitions were always really honest. And it's not that different. I mean, let it be was just such an accident, so that kind of pushed me for allowing myself to just ride the tide."

That second attempt at a film album included the song *Monarch*, for which Feist was known before she became the girl in the blue sweater. If she were a model, we'd say that's her face, with this beauty page song about the simple life (the song is named for a small town in her native Nova Scotia) that Feist discovered her voice. As it is, *Monarch* is present the point at which Feist seemed to figure out the relationship

between her voice and her music. It's a deceptively simple song, might be built around an unadorned melody, but it's a masterpiece. Consider the song last year when Feist performed at Toronto's Bluenote club. During one song, she asked if a young couple might want to come up on stage and slow dance. When she wondered aloud whether any one she'd caught wanted to join the show, the crowd burst almost out of the stage by stage partners.



PARTY MEN would rather withdraw from conflict than deal with it. One couple's therapist calls this behavior "anthropologically polite."

My husband's lost interest in sex

Is he bored? Is he tired? Or just really angry? A new book is aimed at perplexed wives.

BY JULIA MONTENIELLO • Many husbands are choosing to have sex or no sex with their wives. "It's an under-reported fact," wrote the author of *He's Just Not Up for It: Why Men Stop Having Sex and What You Can Do About It*. "We wanted to try to understand why so many husbands are shutting down."

When Dr. Bob Berkowitz and his wife, Susan Yager-Berkowitz, told a gynecologist about their husband's flaking, she, the gynecologist said, "But it's usually the woman who doesn't want to have sex." "Absolutely not," responded the Berkowitzs, who surveyed 4,000 people and discovered to their astonishment that infidelity is not something that settles in 20 years down the road, as might be expected, but in many cases is initiated by the husband shortly after the wedding. According to a United States health and social life survey, lack of desire, not a sexual dysfunction, is the most common sexual problem among men, affecting 30 per cent of adult males.

It's a paradox, the survey discovered, that has women both perplexed and angry. One woman said, "Maybe he's bored. Maybe he's tired. Honestly, I'm making this up as I go. I have no idea." The book is meant to give women a clearer picture of "the gray and varied reasons men have for their desire."

One reason, the authors discovered, is a wife's inadequate weight gain. "A man might love his wife and be embarrassed that he doesn't have sex with her because she is no longer physically attractive to him," says psychologist Helen Skovelski. "It's very difficult to deal with, or even bring up." The book also states that men whose sexual aversion are repeatedly rejected may eventually give up altogether. "I wasn't able to get her involved," said one husband. "She would

sometimes 'allow' me to perform and get on her but I eventually gave up trying."

Another desire-laker for men is a wife who calls all the shots in bed or who is too critical. "She controls the speed that I perform, the proper angles, how long it takes and what position we are in. Only the necessary will do. I don't enjoy sex any," said one husband. Other husbands blame their wife's lack of "adventure" in bed for their loss of interest. "She has one position, that's it. Never changes," said one husband. Another husband in his 40s said, "When we have sex, she lies on her back motionless. After years ago, I asked her to do something different, and I seem to remember her response was simply 'I don't do that.'"

Sex therapist Ann Fitzgerald puts blame down on the No. 1 reason men stop having sex with their wives: "Same place, same state. Men like variety and when a couple gets stuck in a routine, the man is the first to get dissatisfied with it." The book quotes Einstein: "Doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results is the definition of insanity."

The authors also found that passion drops sometimes once a wife becomes pregnant or gives birth. "We're not talking about the drop in sexual frequency. What we're discussing here is quite different. Suddenly, a wife has

become a mother, and it's no longer possible for her husband to perceive her as a sexual being." A 34-year-old husband confesses, "Between my wife breastfeeding and the baby co-sleeping, it's hard to find the time, opportunity, or desire to have sex."

In other instances of husband frigidity, the survey finds that if a man is hooked on Internet porn, he may stop wanting "pursued" sex. Addicted course for his husband believes that funny sex with an "in brushed, call-girl tipped, breast implanted, playmate" may make it difficult for him to find the same excitement with a "real live partner."

On the other hand, couples therapist Robert Mandelsham theorizes that unexpressed anger is the prime reason men stop being sexual with their wives. "Men often present a long list of unexpressed resentment. They would rather withdraw from conflict than deal with it," Mandelsham calls this "pathologically polite—angry but refusing to say so out of fear that once one set of grievances is out in the open, his partner may counter-attack with a set of her own."

"The only way to eliminate hostility is to talk about the issues," say the authors. "Try telling him you're going into therapy and he can join you when he's ready, the book says again. "It's a man who can understand his wife going off to couples' therapy without him." He'll be too afraid. "She's talking about real. She's telling both sides." ■



MOST IMPROVED
In one country, history's most popular singing group is not as bad as previously believed. Israel's government has offered an apology to the two surviving Beatles for canceling a 1965 concert. An official letter expresses regret, stating that at the time, the country couldn't afford the concert, but also "severe" problems in the Knesset had believed at the time that your performance might corrupt the minds of the Israeli youth."

THE BEATLES
In one country, history's most popular singing group is not as bad as previously believed. Israel's government has offered an apology to the two surviving Beatles for canceling a 1965 concert. An official letter expresses regret, stating that at the time, the country couldn't afford the concert, but also "severe" problems in the Knesset had believed at the time that your performance might corrupt the minds of the Israeli youth."

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THE BIODIGRAPHIC is a wicker-wire casket, popular in the U.K., coffin in many colors and may be adorned with wildflowers

Going most gently into the night

Caskets of wicker and recycled paper in fields of flowers: finally, eco-burial comes to Canada

BY BARBARA HORTON • It's as a wicker shell in Bethesda, B.C., an amenity among the handwoven hardwoods, its long and made of green wicker, it's a Gordon Robb's last attempt to sell something other than the traditional casket he makes at his Imperial Evergreen Casket Corp. The biodegradable bodies were popular in the U.K., where so-called green, or natural, burials are thriving. It comes in many sizes and colors and maybe adorned with wildflowers. It's, it's pretty—\$900 wholesale, \$2,000 for customers, and that's not the only reason it hasn't sold. Says Robb, "It is difficult to get a new product into funeral homes."

In one corner of Canada, that's about to change. This fall, green burial is coming to the 134-acre Royal Oak Burial Park in Victoria. It will start small: the cemetery is offering half an acre to accommodate 218 green burials, all with biodegradable caskets. But the park may expand by another three-quarters of an acre. "There is tremendous interest," says executive director Stephen Olson. "Will this revolutionize funeral use? I have no way of knowing."

There are some 10 natural burial grounds in the U.S., but the practice is really popular in England. Nick Baskin, sales director of Eco Coffins in Cambridge, points to nearly 300 acres where his recycled cardboard coffin-covered in repainted paper or even canvas designs, such as photos of the deceased—sell for as much as \$2,500. "There is a growing awareness that we'll find our way back to nature one way or another," Baskin says. "People are aware, when the body is cremated and the ashes are buried, he says, "the cremation from an Eco Coffin are up to 50 per cent less harmful." His company's offer is

up to North America may interest natives of Victoria, where 92 per cent of the dead are cremated. 500, Olson admits that green burials of any type have competitors that even the broad-minded might not enjoy.

At Royal Oak, one far one lays to rest with names engraved on it, there will be no caskets: people will have to find their loved ones' graves. "That's a challenge for cremation," Olson jokes. Perhaps more upsetting, the spirit of green burials prohibits embalming. That means some loved ones may not arrive in time to say goodbye. "Most of us tend to deny our grief and some of us say, 'No, no, no,'" Olson says. "Director of the Princess of Wales Funeral Chapel in Blenheim, says, "Unless people are given the opportunity to view the body, there is no acceptance. If we don't see someone dead, we don't expect to go to the grocery store and see them there."

But Bob MacLean, a retired record producer of the Memorial Society of B.C., which advocates for reasonably priced burials, is in favour. "It is increasingly more friendly," he says. "And it is a recognition that we are dead, and to deal with it." MacLean points out natural burials were the norm before embalming "became a profitable business." He buried his own mother-in-law in a natural way a few years ago: he bought a coffin, put her in it and took her to the church service

as a man. Then, grandkids in tow, he drove the casket to a cemetery and buried it. "My mother-in-law was a transcendentalist," he explains. "Real people understand life and death."

At Royal Oak, cemetery staff will dig the grave. "And a funeral home," Olson says, "will still do the pragmatic things: the transfer of the remains, the legal registrations of the death, the burial permits and the care and shelter of the remains until the ceremony." Olson acknowledges those services won't come cheap. The going rate for a casket, at about \$1,200, plus the insurance for and maintenance, even in a second growth forest with a permitted list of acceptable wildflowers.

In Ontario, Guelph city councillor and president of the Natural Burial Co-operative Mike Selinsky says money is not the issue. "Green burials don't necessarily mean people want to bury their loved ones more cheaply; they want meaningful memorials." Selinsky hopes to develop 25 acres near the town of Pandey for eco-burials. There, he says, he will emulate the American model: a burial ground and a conservation area, "something more significant to society at large." He says his co-op has more than 100 members "even though there are no products or services yet."

Royal Oak, too, has dozens of names on a waiting list, but it's not in the business of pre-arranging. "We are not looking to change the way the world buries its dead," Olson says. "For the family who wants a traditional, we will accommodate that too." **Amen** ■



WHAT THEY GOT FOR IT: HOUSEHOLD TREASURES
A British estate is dragging out an art collection, which had been kicking around inside a late patron's house, that is estimated to be worth \$5.5 million. In addition to two Los Angeles found behind a door in the late Joan Benson's home in Oxford, there was a new edition of Cheever's works, worth nearly \$200,000, in a wardrobe, and a painting by Rembrandt in the kitchen. Part of the collection is being donated to the public to settle a tax bill.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ADAM CALVERT



THE KITCHEN, Jack's Grill When the owners of a competing Edmonton restaurant called for help, Jack's Grill happily offered advice

Fighting fast food in Edmonton

Independent restaurants have joined forces so they can survive in a landscape of chains

BY JENNIFER COCKRILL-SHIO • When Jesse Bades was about to run out of mopins one busy evening at her 10-seat boutique Edmonton restaurant, the Blue Pear, she picked up the phone and made a surprising call—to a competing restaurant. “I phoned Patrick Sweeney, manager at El Portico, and we were able to pick some up right away,” she recalls. And when Sweeney’s staff was looking for a wine, he called up Wilson Wu at Wild Taqueria and asked tonight what Wu was paying his executive chef. Peter Jackson, a 4½-year veteran of the city’s restaurant scene at Jack’s Grill, remembers making calls almost daily from Frank Olsen, when Olsen and his wife took over the small but ambitious Red De Vin dining room, in search of good local ingredient suppliers. Individually, as independents, these restaurants compete for the same diners. Equally important in Alberta’s booming economy, they compete for staff. So why are visitors occasionally overwhelmed by seeing their customers hit other independent restaurants down the street?

Back when Jesse and her husband, Darcy Bades, opened their restaurant in 2004, she could see the writing on the wall. Their stand-alone presence was no match for the ever-whispering advertising power of the chain restaurants that surrounded it. And she was becoming increasingly worried about what she calls “the homogenization of our policies,” as direct access to value portion size and the no-surprises here experience of a chain overhauling experiences unique to the city.

Across the town, she happened to come across a movement in the U.S. that was independent restaurants banding together to have a greater marketing presence, and improve members’ purchasing power and

bottom line, rather than assembling for a price of the shrinking pie. Bades knew it was someone she could count on, and in 2004 she started Original Fare. It began as an alliance of 15 well-established independent restaurants that banded together and banded together, creating a buzz as their names appeared together on billboards, ads, postcards and a website. The Original Fare message urged Edmonton diners to “be your own spokesperson.” Most subtle, it’s the group was issuing a direct call to make diners think about where they spend their dollars in Edmonton’s character-rich restaurant landscape. In return, the independents pledged “to promote, preserve and protect culinary diversity,” as well as “encourage social responsibility, work together and support regional products and producers.”

“I knew that we had to adopt common values,” says Bades. “Original Fare needs to stand for something more than marketing programs.” Original Fare’s annual member ship fee is \$500 and the Edmonton members pay an additional \$150 a month for local advertising, so the buy-in isn’t cheap, especially for restaurants already struggling to pay the bills. But 3½ years later, Original Fare has grown to 17 members in Edmonton, one in Canmore, Alta., three in B.C., and two in Minneapolis. This growth is by no

means meteoric, but diners are responding, and you, sales are up.

Aside from collective marketing programs and advertising news, Original Fare holds meetings for formal networking and offers staff discounts at the other restaurants. A group health care benefit program is being looked at.

Nevertheless, at 35 members, this little coalition has to work out on its own. According to Toronto-based consumer and retail market research firm the NPD Group Inc., 74 per cent of the traffic for food-commercial food outlets in Canada belongs to chains. It can be argued that that number is skewed toward chains by the fact that they sell 96 per cent of the “Quick Service” (read: fast food) market share and independents still have two-thirds of the “Full Service” market, chain, or, down restaurants or solely with service staff. But independents are certainly thriving the best. Having dominated the fast-food market, chains are now looking at full service, even the fine dining sector, with hungry eyes.

“Most people still don’t understand the urgency of the situation,” says Bades. Indeed, when a Big or Millenium’s location closes, there’s another one across the street that next week menu and décor; but when a community lives as independent, that uniqueness is gone forever. “It isn’t a restaurant issue, it’s a community issue,” Bades stresses. “Where we spend our money now determines what our choices look like in the future.” ■



TODAY'S SPECIAL... CANDY FOR THE JILTED
Valentine's Day is no fun for the newly dumped or the perpetually undesirable. Brown your emotions in heart-shaped candies called Bittarapapies. Sweet and very soft, they come in heart-shaped tins, each with 37 different phrases based on chain dishes “dumped,” “detected” and “dysfunctional.” Among the embossed phrases are “Peaked at 17,” “Table for 3,” “I Cry on Q,” and “Dark Magenta.”

PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES L. LAM

BE MY VALENTINE: Wooing (in Fisher in *Definitely, Maybe*, Reynolds breaks the stereotypes mould to play a sensitive romantic lead

Walking the Hollywood high wire

Is Ryan Reynolds destined to be the next Tom Hanks, or will he be another Ben Affleck?

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON • Ryan Reynolds knows the girlfriend question is going to come up. It always does. In any interview, it's just a matter of time before he gets asked about his former fiancée, Alison Moskosso, and about rumours that he's engaged to his new flame, Scarlett Johansson. That's the price you pay when you're a movie star who dates women more famous than yourself.

“You can sit down with the most prestigious newspapers, and they're still going to want to know something about your personal life,” sighs Reynolds, who's on the phone from Colorado. In *Definitely, Maybe*, he plays a dad-in-dispute who turns his tangled romantic history into a bedtime story for his 10-year-old daughter (Naomi Ravello)—while the two go to get with the girls (Julia Roberts, Rachel Watson, Shoshanna Banks or Rachel Weisz) will turn out to be her mother.

So, how, in real life, do you know who is the One? “There's no real argument to be had about who's ‘mine’ versus ‘hers,’” says Reynolds. “A lot of women are more about the ‘who’ and the ‘how,’ it's more about the ‘when.’”

And in his own experience? “I've had my share of ups and downs in the romantic world,” he laments. “I can look back at certain moments fondly and the other ones with a bit of regret and upset.” Sound like new. Usually I see personal questions until the end of an interview. But of red-daubing the disgraced Valentine's Day date movie, and love is on the table. Clearly, I inquire about what happened with Moskosso, then how he met Scarlett. In both cases, he politely refuses to answer.

Reynolds is in the odd position of having a career that's trying to catch up to his celebrity. People recognize the 32-year-old man more in 2007 as a core fan of his ads and

his girlfriends than for his movies. And the Vancouver born actor, who finished high school in drama class, has had his share of setbacks. He gave up acting in the late '90s after a string of unsatisfying TV roles. Making his breakthrough as a rugged action star in *Van Wilder* (2002), he soldiered through several underdog studio pictures—from a remake of *The Usual Suspects* (2005) to a remake of *The Amityville Horror* (2005). And he starred in some smaller films that failed to ignite—from the Canadian best movie *Knives Out* (2005) to the gross-out treatment *Crashville* (2006).

New work has come much faster. A match with the role of *Definitely, Maybe*, his first given-up movie came from a friend by the name of Brad Pitt. The *Definitely, Maybe* premiere of *Knives Out* in the Garden, his first serious role, which co-star Julia Roberts. But as the stakes are raised, you have to wonder: can this square-jawed, unsmiling hunk break Hollywood's A list, or will his career at least run like his last film *Knives Out*?

Not quite in the lead directly. But when asked if he's a leading man, Reynolds says no. “And I'll tell you why. I've never had a professional experience in this industry. The only experience I had is that I felt like a character actor and I don't look like one. I was pushing against the grain a bit with that. And I would get those calls—‘Well, you're in the

two and you have all your teeth. We need Danny DeVito for this role, not you.’”

By acting as a sensitive romantic lead in *Definitely, Maybe*, he's also playing against type. “I've built a career on characters who have always had aumpy one liner, a sarcasm,” says Reynolds. But (5'11”) Reynolds-born actor director, Adam Brooks—who has scripted *French Kiss* and *Smokin' Aces*, *The Edge of Heaven*—was confident his star would break the mould. “I was looking for a Tom Hanks, Jimmy Stewart kind of quality,” says Brooks, “and I felt that Ryan just wasn't it. He was taller, but there was this natural, relaxed energy in him.”

In *Definitely, Maybe*, Reynolds is not just relaxed, he's positive—the soft centre in a cast of three strong dudes who play in a class of hard-boiled exes with noble character. He plays a political adviser who moves from the Midwest to Manhattan to work for Bill Clinton's 1992 primary campaign. As field hands went through 15 years of romantic rut and error, this is the kind of hero who doesn't set so much as get stood upon. He's Mr. Nice Guy waiting for Ms. Right. Reynolds admits the script saved him. “It's a lighthearted walk between comedy and drama,” he says. “There's a feeling in the back of my mind that says, ‘Come, don't pad this off.’ And that's the pace, that comes out. That's exciting.” As Reynolds' career comes of age, the highwire will only get more precarious. Will he make it to the other side? *Definitely, Maybe*. ■



WE'RE STALKING... KATE BLANCHETT

When the Australian film star recently met Prince Philip at a party, she introduced herself as someone who works in the film industry. Being entirely honest, she said, a film technician and invited Blanchett to fix his wacky DVD player. A witness told a British paper that the elderly prince said “There's a cord sticking out of the back. Might you tell me where it goes?” If her active career flounders, it's nice to know she has a future in electronics repair.



IN THE HILTON TRIBE: On a vaudeville tour through the U.S. in 1932, returning by ship from a theatrical performance in England in 1933

Happy Birthday, Violet and Daisy

The most famous Siamese twins of the 20th century were born exactly 100 years ago

BY NANCY EVERTS

And that's why both died, how do it
Even educated fans do it
Let's do it won't be first of Coke Pines's great
"Lauderly 311" songs, an accumulation of
examples that all go to illustrate a single
point—in this case, "Let's Do It." And, despite
the qualifying phrase of "let's fall in love,"
you get the distinct impression the "it" he
was urging you to do was an encounter of a
more carnal variety nature.

The most refined ladyboys do it
in the gentlemen club
Helen in your rags do it
What's the use of both beds?
When I was a child and the song came on
the radio, my father would sing along and
my mother would coo in pleasure, until the
following quatrain:

The Dutch in old Amsterdam do it
Not to mention the Hindu
Polks in them do it
Think of Siamese twins

—at which point my mother would always
groan and say she didn't think the lyrics were
appreciate. Indeed, Why would the thought
of Siamese twins be a topic for erotic intimacy?
It's an unfathomable odyssey, not an incentive.
Well, we're a long way from 1938, when Peter
we're the song, and Siamese twins as a
pop-culture phenomenon have wended some
what since then. Still, it was exactly 100 years
ago—Feb. 5, 1908—that the most famous
Siamese twins of the 20th century were born.
They weren't Siamese, but English, born in
a room above the Queen's Head pub in
Brighton town around 1890, and defined by
the celebrity Violet and Daisy Hilton went
on to star in memorable films by Ted Brown



IN THE 1932 film *Freddie, Daisy and Violet*, playing themselves, appeared with their fiancé

Happy Birthday, Violet and Daisy

The most famous Siamese twins of the 20th century were born exactly 100 years ago

ing (director of the 1934 *Laughing Parade*) and
to appear in the 1960s at least two musicals.
How'd they get from Brighton to Broad-
way? Well, Daisy and Violet were pygmy
twins, conjoined at the buttocks. And, having
delivered the babies, the prob landlord
saw her opportunity and more or less bought
the kids from her employer. Shortly there-
after, they were entrusted to the manage-
ment of the late, impresario of Radio's Royal
Midgton, who arranged to "confer" them
with Joseph and Rosa Blank in a show busi-
ness firm, never before had two sets of Siamese
twins appeared on a single bill—the Hilton
twins bled and the grown-up Blank twins,
one, rather, but rather Robert—of which
Rosa, the alleged companion of the pair,
was considerably more beautiful than Joseph,
who disappeared of his daily shagging like
a man, even though, according to rumors,
he experienced his sister's sexual services
simultaneously in her own peripheral.

The Siamese song derives from Chang
and Ring, who were born in Siam and made
a fortune by R. T. Barnum that ever after
all "conjoined twins" were Siamese. All it
happens, Chang and Ring very three quar-
ters Chinese and known at their native vil-
lage as "the Chinese twins." But, in global
media terms, it was Barnum's disgruntled
that prevailed. They were joined at the sternum
and, even in the 19th century, could easily
have been separated. But they were able
to stretch the bones and stand side by
side, looking like two Thais joined at the
thighs. That image came to define Siamese
twins in popular culture. Chang and Ring
married the daughters of a North Carolina
millionaire, kept them in separate houses and

divided their time between the two. Chang
had 10 kids, Ring nine, and their descend-
ants are apparently still be found scattered
throughout the Hudson.

That's what every Siamese twin manager
in the early 20th century was hoping for: a
slice of the Chang & Ring action. The prob
landlord died and "bequeathed" Violet and
Daisy to her daughter, and they all wound up
in a big house in New York, with the sisters
starring in vaudeville as singers, dancers and
musicians. By 1936 they were part of an act
called the Dancemasters, with another up-
and coming British-born performer, Bob
Hope. The girls' three-legged act routines
didn't leave a lot of room for hair. "They're
two much of a woman for me!" said Hope.

The high point of their fame was Ted
Brown's 1934 film *Freddie*, which is no more
or less than what it says: a portrait of the
"twins" in a traveling circus. Daisy and
Violet played themselves, a novelty act who
appear regularly in scenes with their two fian-
cés, when Daisy is kissed by her betrothed,
you can see the usual champion Violet's face.
Today, such a film would use computer tech-
nology, or some Hollywood A-lister sug-
gested by Oscar-bait producers. But in
1934 *Freddie* had no option but to use 100
percent bona fide freddy—not just the Hilton
twins, but Martha the Arabian Wonder,
Kee See the Bird Girl and all kinds of vir-
tually amusing people making reason-ably
humorous of body parts. There's a headless
kid in childhood, and a handsome fellow
with no legs or lower torso walking around
on long arms and feeble hands. There's
another chap dragging around the grounds
who's just a head and about 18 inches of
fleshy limbs. I ought to be cruel and explo-
rative, but, by the time Brown's wrapped
it up, it doesn't seem that way.

By this stage, the twins were, well, not
exactly star, but certainly celebrities. They
posed for champagne then, published on the
beach in artfully contrived bathing suits. Violet
had a run of 15 hit boyfriends—beans and
mascots—before announcing her engage-
ment to the girl's headliner Maurice Lon-
bert. They're one scene done down a rear
ramp. "The very definition of intimacy is
a quiet moment and indecency," pronounced
William C. Chatter of the Manhattan license
board. Violet, her betrothed and her sister
crossed the Hudson to Newark, N.J. "Wah
ingapore!" and town clerk Harry S. Richman
said. "Moral reasons." Reporting the story,
The magazine explained to its readers that
"Daisy & Violet Hilton are a pygmy pair,
a double-monoed and a double-monoed." Violet
had to wait till 1936 to wed some other
fellow entirely in a quiet ceremony on the
50-yard line of the Cotton Club at the Plaza
Carnegie Entertainment.

By 1936, their reputation was, Chatter
for life, had been and it was broken by
1936, their big day stand was broken out
by them by other vendors resented of their
unique marketing gimmick. By 1961, they
were begging groceries in Charlotte, taken
by a kindly sales manager who bought
them some work clothes all they had in their
wardrobe was specially custom-made from
obscure trousers for long of honest vaudeville
circles. One morning in the winter of 1961,
they failed to show up at work. They had
succumbed to Hong Kong flu, and, sharing
the same circulatory system, Violet inevitably
followed.

Hilton was, I'll take Daisy and Violet over
Paris. Unlike her, she had a measure of tal-
ent—instrument-playing, tap-dancing, even
acting—and their lives are more colorful.
too. I told this Siamese twins have ended in
pop culture, which certainly true compared
to the Chang & Ring era. But the phenom-
enon would crop up improbably during the
rehears. We don't have time like *Freddie* and
Chatter for life anymore, but in recent years



IN THE 1932 film *Freddie, Daisy and Violet*, playing themselves, appeared with their fiancé

Happy Birthday, Violet and Daisy

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we've had *True Fall's* *Freddie* and *Stuck On You*.
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HAGLUND'S BESTSELLERS		
COMING TO THE TOP OF THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING LIST		
Fiction		
1 THE UNCOMMON READER	2 OF 1	By Allen Gurne
2 LATE WINTER ON AIR	1 OF 1	By Elizabeth Hay
3 THE APPEAL	1 OF 1	By John Gurne
4 A THOUSAND MILEMENDS RUN	1 OF 1	By Richard Wright
5 WORLD WITHOUT END	1 OF 1	By Ken Follet
6 SWAGGER	1 OF 1	By Michael Crichton
7 PEOPLE OF THE BOOK	1 OF 1	By Caroline Smith
8 DARK KEY	1 OF 1	By Stephen King
9 GODS BEHIND THE SCENES	1 OF 1	By M. J. Wright
10 A LADDER TO THE HEAVENS	1 OF 1	By Stephen King
Non-fiction		
1 IN DEFENSE OF FOOD	1 OF 1	By Michael Pollan
2 MURDERMORPHIA	1 OF 1	By John Gurne
3 THE NEW HISTORY OF THE WORLD	1 OF 1	By John Gurne
4 HOW TO READ THE BIBLE	1 OF 1	By James K. Wright
5 ON VIOLENCE	1 OF 1	By Umberto Eco
6 HOW TO TALK ABOUT BOOKS	1 OF 1	By Peter Dinklage
7 CODE WITH JAMES	1 OF 1	By John Gurne
8 THE BEST IS YET TO COME	1 OF 1	By Allen Hay
9 BORN STANDING UP	1 OF 1	By Stephen King
10 THE NEW HISTORY OF THE WORLD	1 OF 1	By John Gurne
LAST WEEK'S BESTSELLERS		

Browning is an early pioneer of the now-conventional Hollywood theme of the self-defined "altruistic family." And his direction is so solid that, although you may quite be told your moment of their physical difference, he does succeed in shifting your point of view to the friends' perspective—literally, in fact, since most of the smaller creatures appear only at their time under the arms whereas rather than up inside them—and making Cloppers and her violent brother look like outcasts seems like the dehumanization of the human spirit. The wedding feast scene is one of the best examples in film history of a fully realized, self-contained world coming on its own terms. Frost starts off feeling like a wind, overexposed pain but, by his doing, is both touching and moral. Violet and Daisy Hilton were born too late for the Chang & Ring time, but they had their moment and they made their mark. ■

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SCOTT
FESCHUK

Wolfe's the hottest verb, the ranking of them with glancing a movie's opening credits and seeing the words "Mittens" and "McConaughey." The Clinton campaign instinctively sends Bill out to slander Mittens Mittens.

The bills trace to the impact of endgame news in the Democratic race. Obama has attracted the support of a host of major film celebrities, television stars and whatever Tim Bunko is. More important, he's backed by Oprah, who is seen as the gold standard for

and which celebrities to favor over, in which case you'd damn well better swallow what Oprah's doing leading you, honey pie.

The polls begin to discern the mainstream Obama is prepared to win in Illinois. Clinton is expected to win in Oklahoma. Wolf's projected to have an interview in CNN head quarters. Now that's a prize, because Clinton Cooper appears on our screen to give the Wolfman a broader and interview what he and all CNN personnel exist on calling the "best political transition television." Apparently



what makes CNN "best" is that a) it is broadcasting in HD, and b) it is not broadcasting. James Carville in HD—so we've all got that going for us, which is nice.

Results are pouring in. Wolf's pitch to video screen is accompanied with pie charts and check marks. His vocabulary is enriched with hyperbole. "We have some really dramatic numbers to show you!" Wolf declares. (Sure enough, the numbers) and y'know by now, the climate: some from Rome and Juliet. (Trage?) The podium erupts into its second grand old discussion about the habits of young black women. (One woman, Bill Clinton suddenly bringing it with her entrance.) Meanwhile, Obama is told to have wrapped things up in Delaware, which is an overstatement but as a social state, we're told.

Politics with unrepentant leaders is the worst kind of

Super Tuesday is like the Super Bowl, with better haircuts and worse TV commercials

election endgame because the attracts and influences an enormous audience, even if most women only like her because they desperately hope she'll give them a heart or something.

There are those who have been critical of Oprah, portraying her as a mentor to her gender for declining to support Clinton. In response, Oprah has pointed out that a) she is simply "following her own path," and b) everyone knows Hillary is, like, 70 per cent gay anyway. An Oprah told us Obama rally in California: "Bring five friends you get to think for yourself and you get to decide for yourself." Except, it appears to be a book to read, which consumer products to cover,

medium and the most redneck kind of television. But then a gripping staff, nerve-wracking and fun even for those without a screaming interest. Plus maybe Ted Kennedy will have a few too many and do something stupid! That said, when the Greeks invented democracy they probably didn't figure how hard it would be to elect a leader into the right now. Wolf's still talking. "This long night goes on best!" he says. And in millions of living rooms as well. ■

ON THE WORK: For Scott Feschuk a take on the news of the day, with his blog www.scottfeschuk.ca/yesheh

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